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BRIEFS

GAS PIPELINE UNDER STUDY--Studies for the construction of the gas pipeline to the altiplano region will conclude this month, reported Bolivian Government Oil Deposits (YPFB). The Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) approved a loan of \$90 million for the construction of the project, which will supply natural gas to the cities of Cochabamba, Oruro and La Paz. The construction of the gas pipeline is included in the plans to replace heavy liquid fuels with natural gas in the industrial and domestic sectors. One of YPFB's objectives is to guarantee the supply of natural gas to the spheres of influence of the department capitals. Along with this project, YPFB will install a plant to process liquid petroleum gas (LPG), because of the growing demand for this product. Originally, the cost of the pipeline was estimated at \$76.06 million, in 1980 dollars. However, it was reported that the cost will exceed \$100 million because of the high costs of materials and equipment. The project is slated to be finished by mid-1983. The pipeline will be only partially built, because the technical authorities of YPFB decided to use the parallel line of the Cochabamba-La Paz multi-purpose pipeline, whose cost is not included in the project. [Excerpt] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 1 Feb 82 p 3] 8926

CSO: 3010/818

HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT PLANNED

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 2 Feb 82 p C 10

[Text] Coca is the largest and most ambitious hydroelectric project of Ecuador which will produce in the future 5,570 MW of power by using the hydroelectric resources which will be substituted for hydrocarbons, especially diesel oil, which greatly increase the cost of production of energy.

The feasibility studies of the project have been completed and the plan for hydroelectric development along the main courses of the Quijos and Coca Rivers has been completed.

The studies were undertaken and carried out by the consultant firm Hidroservice which delivered the documents to INECEL [Ecuadorian Electrification Institute]. The studies cover an area of 4,200 square kilometers from the sources of the Quijo River to a place called "Codo Sinclair" [sic] from the confluence of the Cosanga and Quijos Rivers at an elevation of 1,812 meters above sea level to "Codo Sinclair" which is at 605 meters above sea level.

During the course of these studies, the geology of the region was analyzed to determine the geomorphologic conditions such as the presence of landslides, alluvial terraces, and so forth; tectonic characteristics such as volcanic faults, the presence of the Reventador Volcano in the vicinity of the project and the geotechnical condition of the various formations.

The feasibility studies established that the full exploitation of the hydraulic resources will permit the use of the waters regulated by four large dams built in series along the Quijos River and five hydroelectric power plants called Horja, El Chaco, Balsas and Salado--which has an engine room at the foot of the dam--and the underground station in Codo Sinclair.

The hydroelectric power capacity which can be obtained is 5,570 MW which will be generated in the electric power plants as follows: Borja with 210 MW; El Chaco, with 465 MW; Balsas, with 375 MW; Salado with 560 MW; and Codo Sinclair with 3,969 MW, the last of which may be built in several stages.

9204

CSO: 3010/234

VENEZUELAN ARMY COMMANDER GENERAL VISITS COLOMBIA

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 2 Feb 82 p 1-14

[Text] Bogota, 1 February--Vicente Luis Narvaez Churion, commander general of the Venezuelan Army, made it clear here that his country has sufficient military equipment to defend its territorial sovereignty at any time, and he stated that the Venezuelan frontiers are well guarded by the troops which are required.

He added, however, that the equipment is aging and that its maintenance is becoming more costly than the purchase of new weaponry. He said that "it is for this reason that we are assessing various types of equipment in all of the armed branches in order to modernize and replace what is now obsolete."

The Venezuelan Army commander met with his Colombian counterpart, Gen Fernando Landazabal Reyes, and paid a courtesy visit to Gen Luis Carlos Camacho Leyva, minister of defense. He also talked with Gen Gonzalo Forero Delgadillo of the Colombian military forces, who, it is reported, is a close friend.

Narvaez Churion said that the primary purpose of his visit to Colombia was to exchange ideas and strengthen the fraternal links existing between the two armies.

The Venezuelan Army general believes that the frontiers of his country are well guarded, but he explained that it is practically impossible to cover every centimeter of the Venezuelan frontier territory, as some individuals urge.

He said that "we have our policies, and we always take those steps we deem desirable to safeguard our territory better, and I would add that generally the needed troops are placed at the sites regarded as strategic in order to be able to provide the maximal level of security the citizens of Venezuela require."

With regard to the purchase of weapons by certain Latin American countries, the Venezuelan Army commander general confirmed that "each country is free, independent and sovereign in its right to purchase all the weapons it deems indispensable. He also stated that Venezuela does not concern itself seriously with these decisions, adding at the same time that each is free to buy from the country which sells at the best terms and which is prepared to meet the conditions of the purchasing country.

He also noted that Venezuela is not arming against anyone and he indicated that neither is it engaging in any armaments race in Latin America, since "all of the countries are committed to preserving and strengthening the system they have, in particular, the countries in which democratic systems of government prevail."

He stressed that the confirmation of this democratic process which has been underway for 24 years has been achieved in Venezuela.

His interview with the commanding general of the Colombian Army led to a proposed exchange of knowledge so that Venezuelan officers can take courses which are suitable and desirable for them in his country and vice versa.

This project will be finalized after discussion with and approval by the governments of the two countries.

In conclusion, he said that the frontier problem with Guyana is nothing more than a claim Venezuela is making against Great Britain for the "plunder of which we were the victims in 1899." He also stressed that "President Luis Herrera Campins has officially informed the government of Guyana that he is unwilling to renew the Puerto Espana protocol, and therefore negotiations will continue in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Agreement."

5157

CSO: 3010/856

BRIEFS

LOANS FOR DOMINICA, GUYANA--Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb. 1 (CANA)--The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) announced today that at its latest board of directors meeting here, it approved just over \$1.5 million (US) in funding for projects in Guyana and Dominica. The board conditionally agreed to advance \$1,283,000 (US) to the Dominica government for construction of factory shells at Canefield and Portsmouth. The buildings will be constructed by the state-run Agricultural Industrial and Development Bank. The CDB board meeting on January 28 also gave the green light to an additional loan of \$270,000 (US) to the Guyanese company Seals and Packaging Industries Limited. The money is to help the firm establish a corrugated cardboard plant and an operation to produce pilfer-proof container caps. These latest approvals brought the CDB's total financing approved to \$361.9 million (US). [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Feb 82 p 3]

BANANA INDUSTRY ENHANCEMENT--Castries, St. Lucia, Monday, (CANA)--The Windward Islands packing company (WINERA), based in St. Lucia is to spearhead the formation of a permanent consultative committee to help stabilise the problem-plagued Windwards Banana industry. This was announced by Vincentian Aubrey Baynes, who was last week appointed the new chairman of WINERA. Baynes told newsmen the intention was that the committee would also include representatives of the Windward Islands Banana Association (WINBAN) and Geest Industries, British buyers of Windwards fruit. WINERA, which produces corrugated cartons for the export of Windwards bananas, is owned jointly by the four island governments and the Venezuelan paper company, Papelera Industrial. According to a WINERA spokesman, Baynes' appointment came in the wake of the company's deep concern over the problems associated with the banana industry. The WINERA board, he said, had also mandated the company's management to meet representatives of WINBAN today to explore the possibility of giving some measure of relief to the industry. Baynes said he viewed the present state of the Windwards banana industry as a matter of regional concern. He said WINERA would initiate the formation of the consultative committee whose primary task would be to urgently review lowering the cost of inputs without jeopardising fruit quality. According to Baynes, such a move would be to the benefit of the islands' growers. [Excerpts] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 2 Feb 82 p 3]

CSO: 3025/178

PRESS ARTICLES REFLECT PRESENT POLITICAL SCENARIO

Bittel Demands Party Normalization

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Jan 82 p 5

[Text] The vice president of the Peronist Party, Deolindo Bittel, asserted that the normalization of political parties "cannot be postponed for too long" and felt that it had to come about, "whether through intervention or a state of assembly," a reference to what are rumored to be the government's choices in this regard.

In statements to Radio Continental, he noted that "some of the stands of the interior minister seem to indicate a change in the government's policy." He was referring specifically to the comments by the interior minister that Argentina's problem is basically political.

He denied, however, that the appointment of civilian governors could be regarded as a "positive" development, inasmuch as "the appointment of civilians does not mean a return to democracy."

"I consider these appointments as a political move that does not indicate that the government intends to return to democracy."

He also indicated that "the choice of governors is not very good, because I don't know what the appointees can contribute."

He went on to say that "in some cases" the appointments "will contribute nothing," adding that the designation of Bonifacio Cejuela in Mendoza "has created frictions in his own party."

He stated later on that "the new governor San Juan (Leopoldo Bravo) is no great choice either, because we have a good memory."

He recalled that Bravo ran for vice president on Brigadier Ezequiel Martinez's ticket, "and just ask yourself how many votes he got."

With regard to the multiparty association's internal situation, he said he was in favor conducting "a campaign to clarify" the "proposal to the country" that the group formulated late last year, but he was not "as optimistic" about staging "events in Luna Park, as people have been talking about."

With regard to the organization of political parties, he underscored that "this cannot be postponed for too long."

Referring to the government's alleged intention to intervene in the parties or else declare them in a state of assembly, he said that "whether through intervention or a state of assembly, the normalization has to be carried out somehow so that the leaderships are true expressions of the will of the affiliates."

Troccoli Discusses Politics

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 15 Feb 82 p 4

[Article by Fernando Sanchez Zinny, special correspondent]

[Text] Mar del Plata--"Look, as far as I'm concerned, the Armed Forces are getting increasingly tangled up in petty move having to do with minor interests, and I do not think that it can have a happy ending for them," Antonio Troccoli, the Radical leader, told us in the livingroom of his home in Peralta Ramos. The atmosphere was clearly family-oriented, with the leader's wife and grandchildren present. One might have even taken it for granted that the obligatory small talk would be heard at any moment: "I came here to rest. Too bad it's been so cold and rainy these past few days." But no, and soon the Mar del Plata Radical leader emerged. The previous night, Angel Roig and Troccoli had spoken at a function of the local multiparty group. No, he did not come here to rest, because people who have taken civic stands like his, which stem from a specific kind of activism, do not even have the right to.

"But are we going to discuss politics?" he asked almost shyly.

"Doctor, unless you would rather talk about the weather, I would say we are." Then he went on the attack.

"Well, what Videla put off and what Viola broached only tangentially now seems, under Galtieri, to be the government's clear-cut objective: the formation of a government party. I don't think that this is, in fact, an impromptu move; rather, it is the implementation of a previously charted plan of operations that obviously has, and always has had over these years, the backing of the military commanders."

The Heritage of the Process

"This would, of course, be the heritage of the Process, except that at this point it is turning out to be a struggle for the spoils, a ruthless struggle among the institutional, sectoral interests that have surrounded the military government... This is not an election proposal, nor will it ever be, to judge by the kind of support that the Process has gotten so far; rather, it represents a dangerous lack of desire in this regard... But that doesn't matter. Adventurers

and tired old caudillos are getting ready to enjoy the flattery of public office for a time, thus entertaining the Armed Forces in their solitude."

Troccoli feels that this move, like others, has its price, which will have to be inexorably paid: "It's a political price that I would assume is high, because I get the impression that the seeds that were sown with unthinking joy are about to sprout and events that will be hard to control are about to happen."

The Multiparty

He then talked about the multiparty association as an attempt to develop a "platform for progress" [piso de marcha] that will one day help to fully restore the currency of our institutions: "National reconciliation, but without losing identities and without belittling the natural differences that the parties have on many major points and without in any way overlooking the role and the jurisdiction of the military in the operations of a modern State."

"It alarms me that the military has not accorded the multiparty its true value. In contrast, they have chosen a position in which they have been reduced to mere agents of a party; in other words, they have consented to an ideological shrinking of their dimension, risking all of the consequences that this might have in the long run."

He then remarked that "there is no explanation" for the roots and motives of this official posture, which stems from a specific plan of the military commanders.

"Now then, what we have to think about is a solution. The edifice is in danger of crumbling, and our duty is to get the nets ready to save lives. This will not be easy, but this is our mission as civilians now."

What about economic policy? He asserted that "it won't go very far, but from another standpoint it represents the continuation by the government of an approach that views 'the annihilation of one sector by another' as the solution to everything. . . And perhaps this kind of objective is not that hard to attain. In contrast, our alternative, our democratic proposal is going to be hard to implement. We will have to establish channels of coordination, correct imbalances and restore meaning to the conceptual difference between 'economy' and 'finances,' and above all rebuild what has been destroyed. The latter, unfortunately, will take years."

MID Criticizes Armed Forces

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Feb 82 p 5

[Text] The Integration and Development Movement (MID) has released a document based on analysis "of the reports on its corresponding work areas" and designed "to express its stand on the situation in the country."

The statement begins with the assertion that "after almost 6 years of blundering in basic policy, the current military process no longer has any grounds for becoming a legitimate government of consensus. As has been aptly stated, it is worn out." It goes on to say that the MID's assessment is shared by "Argentina's fundamental political organizations, but at the same time it is no secret that many leading figures in the Process itself share it privately."

"This makes it even worse that the aim is chaos, not an orderly transition. A democratic awareness is not being sought; instead, an attempt is being made to circumvent the will of the people and to take a path that has been trodden in the past with dire consequences.

"The most convincing evidence of some people's blindness and of the influence that anti-Argentine interests are exerting behind the scenes is the obstinate pursuit of a socioeconomic policy that has been a resounding failure and that is incompatible with democracy, an economic model that can be imposed on the country only through dictatorship and that can 'work' only if Argentina cuts its population in half." It also blames recessionary policies for the "exodus of our fellow countrymen."

Consequences

It then indicates that this "has had grave social consequences, inasmuch as poverty has spread in the interior and in the capital, endemic diseases that had been conquered are breaking out again, malnutrition and infant mortality are getting worse, and the school dropout rate is another pathetic manifestation of the crisis. Parallel to this, all sectors are crying out for a change in direction, but the government's response has been insensitivity and arrogance.

"The shattering of the current process's shaky legality," the document continues, "which offered us the spectacle of five presidents in 1 year, was another result of these blunders. At the same time, it provided an opportunity to correct things, but the government chose to reaffirm its anti-Argentine economic policy and sought to control reactions by suppressing democratic rights, undertaking political maneuvers aimed at preserving the status quo and engaging in cheap politics."

Privatizations

It later addressed "the issue of privatizations." After pointing out that the public sector has to be scaled back and that a great many public enterprises have to be privatized, it comments that this has to be done "in a context of economic expansion, privatizing what can be privatized."

In this regard, it underscores that "Dr Alemann has overlooked these two requirements and has announced privatizations that can only be viewed as a political provocation." It then comments on the "selling off of our subsoil

and the privatization of the Bank of the Nation, the National Reinsurance Institute and the meat and grain boards. These moves will not help resolve the problem and will discredit the idea of scaling back the government. They will also, in practice, encourage a statist regression at a time when the country is showing a very mature attitude towards an overblown government."

The Other Side

The document asserts that the "other side of this economic program is a policy that denies the most elementary democratic rights," such as the right to strike, the right of petition, while banning political party activities and "unscrupulously manipulating the state-run mass media."

"As if this were not enough, the government is moving forward with maneuvers aimed at preserving the status quo and based on meddling in the internal affairs of the parties, promoting an official party and drafting proscriptive clauses for the announced political parties statute. The foreign policy counterparts of these debasing domestic policies are commitments that violate our historic traditions and that lead to quite murky situations, such as Argentina's reported involvement in Caribbean affairs."

After a number of other remarks, the document asserts in conclusion that "the intensification of the crisis is leading up to a situation in which the Armed Forces could be pitted against the rest of the social fabric and which could bring a repeat of painful experiences that we all want to avoid. Those who are encouraging rifts and confrontation do not necessarily belong to this or that segment of society nor are they necessarily civilians or in the military. They are those who cling to an anti-Argentine policy." The document then calls for the reestablishment of union and political freedoms, a change in basic policy, an attack on inflation by mobilizing our productive resources and hammering out basic common ground among all sectors so that the country can be rebuilt.

Remarks by Leopoldo Bravo

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] San Juan--Governor Dr Leopoldo Bravo has given assurances that "bloquismo" will be part of the third political force that will be formed in the country.

Upon returning from La Pampa, where he accompanied the president on his recent visit, along with other provincial governors, Dr Bravo told local newsmen that the instructions that the chief executive gave with regard to political activities at the governors meeting were of a general nature and did not establish guidelines of any sort.

The governor added that intensive work is being done on the political parties statute and its complementary laws, "which means that in the next few months the citizenry will have the legal instruments it needs to organize."

"This means," he said, "that the nation's civilian sectors will mobilize and also that bloquismo will take part, inasmuch as this political force has been around for more than 60 years and continues to bear the banners of democracy, federalism and the republican system."

"A parochial approach is unquestionably no longer taken in contemporary life," the San Juan governor remarked. "Even in Europe today the talk is of the European Community, not a given country. This does not mean, however, that countries have lost their individuality; rather, they are seeking common ground, both in the economic sphere, where it has been successfully achieved, and in the political sphere. So then, in future Argentine politics bloquismo will find ways to cooperate with other sectors that have similar philosophies or with a segment of the Argentine citizenry that has never been involved, that has not yet had the opportunity to participate."

Wine Prices

Dr Bravo said he was pleased with the recent increase in the price of wine, "which suggests that firm, vigorous action is being taken." He went on to say that 20 leading wine producers will be meeting in Buenos Aires soon to outline a policy for coordination. Such a policy, he said, would aim at maintaining upward price trends.

UCR Split Over Multiparty

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 15 Feb 82 p 5

[Text] Cordoba--The Radical Civic Union (UCR) of Cordoba is preparing to initiate talks among its foremost leaders and figures, both in this capital and in the interior of the province, to work out the stand that the union will take on the appeal by other local political groups to set up a multiparty association in the province.

We should point out in this regard that Cordoba Radicalism's main leaders are more hesitant about than in favor of the stand taken by the Peronist, MID [Integration and Development Movement], Christian Democratic and Intransigent parties, which have come out strongly in favor of setting up a local version of the multiparty organization.

UCR leaders are influenced not only by current events but also by the entire tradition of local Radicalism, which has almost never backed the establishment of multiparty organizations because it has always jealously guarded its individuality. On this occasion, furthermore, they feel that the national multiparty group is more than achieving the goals for which it was created and therefore do not see why a similar group is needed on the provincial level.

This reluctance has, of course, been more than perceptible. So far, the other four political factions have accepted it in one way or another, but pressures have intensified in recent weeks. This is the reason for the meetings that the top leaders of the five parties held some 10 days ago,

which were for information purposes to an extent, and for the one that the UCR Provincial Committee held with its Political Action Board. The latter get-together was to a degree an outgrowth of the former ones, which in turn stemmed from a determination to initiate talks. This is the main outcome of these two organizations' deliberations last Saturday.

In the Interior of the Province

Talks have been held with leaders from the interior not only because of Cordoba Radicalism's tradition of allowing organized groups from all over the province to have input in basic decision-making but also because of a clear-cut recent development. According to some observers of present-day Cordoba politics, there is strong backing for the formation of a multiparty group in Cordoba in certain major cities, especially Rio Cuarto. Should the opportunity arise, such backing could manifest itself in the establishment of such a group in these cities, even if this runs counter to prevailing policy in provincial bodies. In other words, the possibility that decisions at variance with the provincial policy might be made in certain regions of the interior is being carefully assessed by the men on the Provincial Committee, who will have to do everything they can to prevent rifts in a party that has not had them for some time now.

Contin Calls Government Arrogant

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 15 Feb 82 p 5

[Text] Cordoba--The chairman of the National Committee of the UCR, Carlos Contin, told the local morning paper LA VOZ DEL INTERIOR that "we won't make it to 1984 under the Alemann plan." He added that "the government is again taking refuge in arrogance. We showed up to dialogue and brought the multiparty's proposal. In other words, we informed it of our thoughts, with our basic goal, of course, being to reestablish the republic's institutions."

He remarked that "we want to reestablish the institutions. This is the multiparty's basic objective, and it is easier for five than for one to accomplish it."

"Trial Balloon"

He regarded the possibility of declaring a political party state of assembly as "a trial balloon," adding that "otherwise it would be a provocation, an attack that wouldn't lead anywhere. It would upset the climate of peace that exists among our citizens. On the contrary, they have to let the political parties reorganize with total control of the State, as the law stipulates, as the statute stipulates. We want the law to be even-handed, even if it is tough. We do not want any tricks."

"Intolerable Situation"

In another vein, he considered the economic situation "intolerable. These liberals are rushing ahead instead of correcting their course and are intensifying

the process. It's no longer enough for them to hand over what was on the surface; now they want to hand over what's in the subsoil too."

"The country is not going to allow this. I don't even think that the Armed Forces are going to consent to it. Thus, we are warning the government that it cannot proceed along this path, because it will inevitably lead to a resounding, immediate failure."

8743

CSO: 3010/867

PRESS ITEMS REFLECT CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION

Galtieri Visits Santa Rosa

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Feb 82 p 4

[Article by Juan Maria Coria: "Achieving Compatibility Among Those Associated With the Process"]

[Text] Santa Rosa (La Pampa)--The introduction of Lt Gen Galtieri at a function the occasion for which was an historical celebration but which also evinced a deeply political essence has brought about unknown aspects regarding the effort that is obviously under way with those close to the government to direct a partisan force that is, according to its leaders, combined with the process.

But if this course of action has been chosen for unity aimed at future action, care will have to be taken concerning the repetition of incidents which were noted during the ceremony held at the main square in Victorica. And we should begin by stating that it would be preferable if the applause were to come from the public, and not the official box; and that it is noteworthy that, when General Galtieri asked for a minute of silence, a widespread murmur was heard from the audience gathered in the square, a sign that very few were heeding his remarks at that juncture.

With this evidence in view, there is very little margin for error in making any assessment.

Impressions had already been received concerning the composition of the audience that would attend the fitting celebration which had been arranged to mark the centennial anniversary of a civilizing feat; but, yesterday, facing the official box, the placards identifying the many districts, with quite specific groups in these delegations, confirmed the advance notice that had been given in this regard.

It is unquestionable that certain offers, possibly such as that of a huge barbecue attended not only by the residents of the host locality but also by those from other locations, would act as a spur to draw the masses, and even more so if there were added to it other spectacular features, such as the descent, midway in the presidential address, of very skilled hand-gliders who, after turning gracefully above the president's box, drawing the attention of the crowd gathered there, alighted a few meters from the official stage.

With infinite patience, the president then waited for the attention to be returned to his address, making some gracious remarks that expressed understanding of what was happening before he continued. On that occasion applause did come spontaneously from the people gathered there, particularly from a large number of students who were required to attend.

Amid the entire panorama that was observed, wherein political affairs were mixed with chronological affairs, or with history, which is more warranted, we could also attest to other incidents which, although we had been notified of them in advance, were difficult for us to believe.

Party Meetings

For example, it was also confirmed that this extensive presence of governors of civilian origin who undoubtedly were expending their respective efforts to achieve a setting suitable for this kind of "launching" was completed with the contribution of meetings with partisan features; because the heads of the governments also met with political leaders, some of whom were in the official box.

It is not our place to pass judgment on the political style begun in this phase of the process. We are merely citing the incidents that we noticed.

The President's Views

In his speech, the president was emphatic in stating that the nation had suffered those periods, problems and dangers, and had the lofty impetus to shelve offenses and to cultivate magnanimous recollections.

In our opinion, his main ideas lay in his statements regarding the definitive, stable search for the nation's political future, "and not attempting to negotiate it in semi-darkness;" that alternation between civilian and military governments does not and will not satisfy anyone; and that those who are willing to find ways that will help to overcome this "are and will be our friends."

The president was clearcut, despite the audience. Perhaps with regard to the latter the friends may have been somewhat mistaken.

The Barbecue of the Century

It was served in several huge tents, under the shade of which a temperature of about 42 degrees "was enjoyed." A crowd had gathered for this native-style luncheon, numbering far more than those seen during the ceremony in Victorica square; and when General Galtieri appeared he was met with applause originating first among about 60 barbecue helpers dressed in white, who were taking care of the entrails.

Later, the same personnel, but raising skewers filled with pierced sausage, were lined up in front of the presidential tent and, when the order to proceed was given, began serving the huge luncheon.

Most of the delegates from the capital, when the necessary period for their mission had ended, went out in search of less harsh temperatures, and began the odyssey of finding the vehicles in which they had been carried, amid clouds of dust and sand, dodging rows of cars and mass transport vehicles used to carry many of the attendees.

Nevertheless, it was a genuine and certainly unusual rural celebration, and this was noted among the large number of dining companions who were present to enjoy this bountiful invitation, with a gaiety that not even the surrounding temperature could overcome.

Party Leaders Comment

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 20 Feb 82 p 12

[Article: "In Search of the Heir Apparent of the Process"]

[Text] President Galtieri's visit to La Pampa had a political essence which observers consider greater than that of any other official act carried out during the nearly 6 years that have elapsed since the birth of the National Reorganization Process.

The speech delivered by Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri in Victorica, on the occasion of the centennial celebration of that La Pampa town, and the presence of outstanding leaders of the Popular Federalist Force (FUFEP0), including some governors, provided much to discuss, and there were some who interpreted it as possibly the starting point for the "independent political force" the creation of which the president is demanding.

Although those leaders insist upon denying that they are engaged in forming an official party or the structuring of the aloof MON [National Opinion Movement], it is claimed that, in the centennial celebrating town, the provincial strong men held talks aimed at forming a movement that would become the political heir of the process.

'Valid Alternative'

The fact is that there converged in that location such personages as the minister of defense, Dr Amadeo Frugoli; Governors Bonifacio Cejuela, Leopoldo Bravo and Roberto Casis; in the absence of the Jujuy governor, Horacio Guzman, his daughter, Cristina; and the leader Ismael Amit who, with Guzman, heads FUFEP0.

Although Dr Cristina Guzman denied that FUFEP0 is attempting to become an "official party", she admitted that "it is working on the expansion of its bases." She maintained that her group is a "valid alternative force, the origin of which dates back to 1973, and which has no relationship with the government."

In response to a question, she told LA NACION that, just as it did in 1975 with Popular Line, the Popular Federalist Force is now attempting to expand with the inclusion of "independent sectors and those representing national life."

She remarked: "We have backed the process since 1976, because we agree with its essential principles; but we are doing so now particularly, when it is becoming intensified and proposes to return to its sources." And she added: "But that has nothing to do with the notion that the government is seeking to form its party."

'Screen of an Independent'

However, Dr Alberto Robredo, head of the Federal Party led by Francisco Manrique, expressed the view that an attempt is being made to "establish an MON behind the screen of an independent movement, but with undeniable government backing."

Robredo, who stated that he was "diametrically opposed" to a plan of that type, was queried because mention had been made of his party and certain centrist groups as being targets in the sight of those fostering the force that would grow with the government's enthusiasm.

He declared: "The Federal Party will continue with its own. We believe that we are that independent force. We have no intention of being a center. We have a destiny to occupy the entire political spectrum."

According to Robredo, the country "has a depleted past, with two paths that have been traversed: the traditional parties, whose leading proponents comprise the multiparty system, and the military alternative, which has acted in recent decades." He added: "We say 'no' to both paths."

'Heirs Apparent'

In the absence of its president, engineer Alberto Costantini, Dr Newton of the National Center Party expressed opposition to the plan in question. She commented: "I do not believe in heirs apparent; an imposition cannot be reached in that respect."

The centrist leader voiced skepticism regarding the possibility of creating a party within the government, and then stressed: "I wish success to the process, but I do not believe that a political force can be linked with a government in which it does not participate."

For his part, Dr Nelson Calvo, who resigned from the same group, described the possible creation of a political movement sponsored by the government as "nonsense" and as a plan to which he was "totally opposed."

He said that the National Center Party had not yet accepted his resignation, submitted in December "for personal reasons," for which he gave grounds on that occasion. Now, Dr Calvo confided in LA NACION that, apart from those reasons, his decision had been influenced by "differences with the leadership" of the PNC; and then declared: "The party cannot be involved with the government, through sponsorship in naming individuals affiliated with its ranks to hold government posts."

Buenos Aires Governor Interviewed

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 21 Feb 82 pp 1, 12

[Interview with Buenos Aires Province Governor Jorge Ruben Aguado, by Fernando Sanchez Zinny; in Mar del Plata, date not given]

[Text] Mar del Plata--"The process will continue insofar as it works. If anyone wants to call this statement that I am making 'electoralist' that is the responsibility of those who use this adjective. What I can tell you is that those of us who have come together to cooperate with good will in public office are doing so inspired by a genuine political calling, interpreted as an attitude of civic service." The individual making this statement in an interview with LA NACION was the governor of Buenos Aires Province, Mr Jorge Ruben Aguado, on one of his weekends in this city, which are periodic interruptions in his activity in La Plata and other locations in the provincial territory, but which do not actually involve intervals of rest, because he also comes to deal with government business. He explains: "The ones who are on vacation are my family, occupying this governors' suite at the Provincial Hotel."

A few days ago, Aguado made a comment which did not go unnoticed: He said: "To govern is to engage in politics," giving rise to offensive conjecture. Hence, we asked him to complete his thought. He began by quoting to us the classic principle: "Politics is the art of making possible what is necessary;" and remarked that, in his opinion, "a governor is one who manages politics on the basis of previously defined general interests."

Political Ambitions

He went on to say: "Let us agree on this: the general interest is not the sum of the sectorial interests, and the government's function cannot be confused with the defense of the latter, however legitimate they may be per se. The former will always entail the sacrifice of some aspects of the latter. So, I conceive of the governor as being someone conceptually of greater rank than a representative of a sector, as a citizen who considers that formulation of general interests in political terms.

"Therefore, I am frightened by those who come to public office and whose first act is to claim that they do not love politics, that they do not wish to engage in it. Then why did they accept the positions that they hold? I also believe in properly channeled ambitions, those which drive people to attain great accomplishments. I have no qualms about admitting, insofar as I myself am concerned, that I actually harbor political ambitions, in the best sense of the word."

The Sectorial Area

He then recalled his background as a sectorial leader. "An activity which proved to be an excellent school for me, a school which taught me that the country cannot be run on the basis of sectors, even though they may be valid. The experience left by state intervention in entities such as the CGT [General Labor Confederation] or CGE [General Economic Confederation] must be in everyone's memory, and we must strive in the task of creating conditions to prevent a distortion of that type from occurring again in Argentina."

And Aguado is categorical in stating the corollary to the foregoing: "I am opposed to the intermediate entities' being used in the political area; the use that has been attempted to make of them in that area frequently has not only harmed them institutionally, but has also proven detrimental to the genuine political activity."

[Question] Governor, you have spoken a great deal about politics, but it so happens that the exercise thereof is legally restricted. It is conceivable that the people who want to engage in it are encountering obstacles in implementing their calling.

Participation

[Answer] That is true, but we would caution that the restrictions relate only to the partisan structure; not, for example, to the free expression of opinions which, after all, is the essence of political activity. That freedom of opinion is fundamental, and we must become accustomed to exercising it, both in making judgments and in listening to them, so as to learn responsibility, on the one hand, and a sense of coexistence, on the other.... And another question is posed here: We are all agreed that an impetus is necessary for "participation"; but there have been some who have asked me, "And what does one do to participate?" Well, it is like everything else; it is something that is won, that demands dedication, sacrifice and time. The path is not easy, but it is open, and those who have a genuine civic calling will manage to traverse it.

The Province

[Question] And how is Buenos Aires Province progressing?

Aguado seeks words that will properly reflect his thoughts and, after a brief hesitation, the answer comes. He says: "It demands effort, it has problems and major ones. Obviously, it is not fitting to make bombastic or deceptive announcements. Certainly what was accomplished in 40 years cannot be accomplished now in 1 or 2 years. My essential goal (based entirely on the guidelines of the national government, of course) is, first, to establish for the provincial area balanced economic terms and, at the same time, to attempt the gradual elimination of the state's excessive size." He tells us about the budget deficit: "2.4 billion in 1981, out of a budget of 16 billion pesos; which is equivalent to about 15 percent;" and the size of the state apparatus, which has some 200,000 agents, to which must be added another 70,000 who come under the municipalities; while the number of retirees is about 110,000. But his dominant topic is Greater Buenos Aires, "in which, counting the districts of Greater La Plata, there are 7.5 million residents;" and where one notes the greatest dearth of opportunities to provide the population with the means for insuring a reasonable quality of life.

'Voluntarism'

He explains: "To me, the fact that, at this stage in the 20th century, there is an urban area without running water can only be described as disgraceful.... But schools are lacking as well; 25 percent of the province's population is concentrated there, and only 35 percent of the educational establishments are located there. As for the paving requirements, we can estimate them at between 8,000 and 10,000 kilometers of streets....

"There are many plans, but not much money, and some of the complex projects may have to be stopped temporarily at present. The element that we shall have to ease this situation, or combination of situations, will be what we call the

'voluntarist program', aimed at carrying out small projects, such as kindergartens, small-sized hospital units and school buildings, or the expansion of the latter; work that can be undertaken jointly by the provincial government, the municipalities and the community organizations. We can provide materials and plans from La Plata, and supervise what is being done. The incorporated villages can perhaps provide land and service connections, while the residents can supply the labor and other resources. At any rate, the priorities of Greater Buenos Aires are obvious: water, sewerage, schools and health."

Perez Izquierdo

[Question] Is Minister Perez Izquierdo working on that "voluntarist program"?

[Answer] Certainly. And in this regard, according to comments that have been stated and written, it would appear that the notion has been created that the government is one thing and its minister of government is another. That is not so. I appointed Dr Perez Izquierdo because I know him and I esteem his qualities, and because I know that the one holding his position must necessarily be fully familiar with the problems of Greater Buenos Aires. The fact that he was, precisely, head of one of its municipalities, with all the terrific experience that this represents, was one reason which I considered very carefully when I asked him to join me in the ministry. But, one moment, the minister is a minister of the governor.

Federal Movement Creation Discussed

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 16 Feb 82 p 5

[Article by Arnaldo Paganetti: "The Difficult Birth of MOFEA"]

[Text] The Victoria celebrations last Friday were conducive for the civilian governors of the process (the governor of Jujuy, Horacio Guzman, was represented by his daughter, the Federalist leader Cristina Guzman) to sit down around a table to discuss the establishment of the new independent force called for by President Leopoldo Galtieri in the third phase of the administration begun in 1976.

Participating in the meeting were other officials, those most closely associated with the notion of adopting "a friendly party."

The discussions were confidential, but there was obviously talk about the "launching" (a term publicly rejected) of what some are already calling the Argentine Federal Movement (MOFEA).

The similarities between this organization that is taking shape and those fostered during the first phase are obvious. One need merely recall that former Minister Albino Harguindeguy talked of a center conservative force when the then President Jorge Videla was planning the descendants or offspring that the government should produce.

In this connection, the euphemisms for the mentors of the new "idea" were cited often: neither MON nor government party. However, the mere mention of the

initials MOFEA links it with that notion of MON. And, paradoxically, all those provincial strong men say that they will be the continuation of the current regime.

In Victorica, an evaluation was made of the political effort that will begin during the next few months to proceed (gradually, it was stressed) in the direction of institutional normality.

At that rate, an attempt is being made to advance and recruit the moderate sectors of other parties, including the Peronist and Radical parties.

Francisco Manrique, head of the Federal Party, is regarded as a "potential ally", but the former candidate expressed his disagreement with the Popular Federalist Force (FUFEPO), headed by Ismael Amit and Horacio Guzman.

A spokesman for Manrique (who is currently abroad) told CLARIN that the Federal Party rejected offers from the government for access to public office, because it does not share the idea of "gradual joining".

If one considers the fact that Manrique ranked third in the 1973 elections, one of the weak points of the new movement becomes evident.

What will the "preferred friendships" do after Victorica? It was reported in advance that, this year, the new group would come into existence, coinciding with the passage of the statute on political parties.

The negotiations will become accelerated in March, and there is already talk of another political meeting on 16 April in Salta.

CGT Strategy Discussed

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 22 Feb 82 p 6

[Article: "The Proposition of 'the 62' Prevailed"]

[Text] The Moderates Won

Lorenzo Miguel's preeminence in the difficult CGT negotiations on the features of the proposed mobilization has been so great that some observers agree in stating that the control of the labor confederation by "the 62", headed, as everyone knows, by the veteran metal workers' leader, is by now unconcealable. It was at the latter's residence, in Villa Lugano, that, with the participation of the "hard-liners" (Garcia, Perez) and "moderates", in other words, Miguel's followers, and also with the participation of Ubaldini, head of CGT, and other leaders of the entity, it was agreed that the first phase of the plan, that is, the mobilization would not include a strike nor a demonstration. Hence, there was a yielding on the part of the most inflexible ones, including the representatives of the regional delegations, to the consistency of the gradualist proposition upheld and put forth by Lorenzo Miguel and his adherents.

Return to the Rank and File

Although it was not specified how the action will be undertaken, it is known that it will consist of a campaign of explanation and disclosure of the goals among the union rank and file.

"We must not give it away," commented one of the supporters of that strategy; and he was obviously recalling, when he made that remark, the failure of the strike of 23 July, and the no less negative result of the summons to the march to the Church of San Cayetano. Now, the strategy is different, and with two aims: to ascertain the people's response through meetings in factories or unions, and to gear the activities to those being carried out by the multiparty entity.

The Political Factor

As one leader noted, the "hard-liners" must have been persuaded that it is essential to deal with political decisions, so as not to be too late for "the apportionment". That is, substantially, the reason for the change in tactics. They realize that the present government is lending great implications to political matters, and that inflexibility, without the strength to back it, is senseless.

What is the result of all this? It is very simple: Last week, CGT took a step toward consolidating its presence, aided by its ability to take advantage of the police deployment around its headquarters on the day when the plenary meeting of secretaries general was to be held, with a view toward making its protest a loud one. The entity capitalized politically on that deployment, and on the government's previous warnings about impediments to holding the plenary meeting. The communique which it issued (which was widely disseminated) is evidence of the skillful use of the occasion. Criticism was not spared, to the point where the statement constitutes the most direct accusation of the government put forth by any labor group since 1976.

The Impact on CNT-20

The CGT strategy caused an impact on CNT [National Labor Commission]-20, which held a discussion on Friday and which intends to hold a confidential plenary meeting of secretaries general, originally scheduled for early March. It has been predicted that the latter will produce a document censuring the economic management, and that the board of directors will be authorized to call a 24-hour strike before 15 March.

The purpose of those measures is obvious: to recover a political space which, on the other hand, is becoming large in the labor confederation.

Although it is claimed that there has been no rapprochement recently between leaders of CGT and of the intersectorial entity, there is a widespread impression among analysts that if the idea of the strike by the former entity proves successful, CGT (now controlled by the moderates) might express itself in similar fashion and on the same date.

Railroad and State Workers, and SMATA

But, before resorting to the measure of force, both sectors agree on the need and possibility of taking into consideration what the railroad workers decide. "There will be some noise within the next few days," was the comment in union circles, obviously referring to a possible strike, which would appear to be "spontaneous" so as not to compromise the leaders of the unions including the railroad workers.

Meanwhile, tomorrow Minister Porcile will receive delegates from the state workers' unions, upset over the freeze in salaries and the possibility of privatization of public enterprises. On the same day, the minister will hold dialog for the first time with leaders of SMATA [Union of Mechanics and Related Automotive Transport Workers], who will attend the meeting with the interventor, Col Carlos Valladares.

The undersecretary of the labor ministry, Commodore Pedrerol, for his part, will soon be attending the meetings in Geneva of the ILO [International Labor Organization] committee on trade union liberty. Those meetings predate the ones of the entity's administrative council, which will hold discussions starting on 1 March. Pedrerol will not be present there; instead, the meeting will be attended by Dr Gabriel Martinez, our ambassador to the international agencies with headquarters in Geneva. It is not thought that any major problems concerning the labor situation in Argentina will be discussed at the sessions of the aforementioned committee. On the other hand, they could arise at the agency's meeting a week before its annual assembly in June; but in such an eventuality, Argentina has strong arguments to prove that the process of union normalization is being carried out as promised.

Remarks by Galtieri

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Feb 82 p 4

[Article: "Galtieri Described the Circumstances Under Which He Assumed Office"]

[Text] Victorica, La Pampa--Lt Gen Leopoldo Galtieri stated here that he assumed the presidency of the nation, when Lt Gen (ret) Roberto Viola was unseated, in the context of "an accumulation of unfavorable surrounding pressure," and that, therefore, it was necessary "to overcome the situations that were being experienced."

Moreover, he admitted that, in the present state of the nation, "problems exist;" and he claimed: "All of us Argentines shall solve them, headed by your president, directing and leading the effort."

Galtieri said that, although he had come to La Pampa "with empty hands," the aim of his government is "to build a great country."

The head of state addressed impromptu remarks to the guests at the barbecue served in this town.

Galtieri commented on the ceremonies at which he had officiated in this town, claiming that there were combined in them "masses of people, without regard for wealth, position, greater or lesser intellectual capacity, or hostile factions, which at times thwart the best intentions and best benefits of the Argentine people."

The president then expressed recognition for demonstrations by "La Pampa mothers and fathers, who offered me their children to kiss, giving me the honor of making this gesture to the people of La Pampa;" which evoked applause from the crowd.

He next cited "the affection and sensitivity" of the people of La Pampa, stating that, in traveling here, he had come "with all my affection, my sensitivity and my sentiments, but I came (he stressed) with empty hands."

he declared: "Today, I have nothing in my hands other than desires to accomplish with all Argentines. I have desires to build a great country; and the activity in which I engaged yesterday (the day before yesterday) in Santa Rosa, and here in Victorica, will make me return to Buenos Aires reassured, and convinced that material things are not everything in the souls of the Argentine people, and particularly those of La Pampa."

2909

CSO: 3010/911

REACTION FROM VARIOUS SECTORS TO BANK'S PRIVATIZATION

Comments on Privatization

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 Jan 82 p 10

[Text] The plan to partially privatize the Bank of the Nation, the largest bank in Argentina in terms of its deposits and loans, has aroused a variety of comments by politicians, economists, and rural leaders.

For Alfredo Gomez Morales, who was minister of the economy during the second administration of Juan Peron, the project means that the government "is wasting time on totally secondary issues," and stirring up news items to distract attention from really important issues" in economics.

"I can't understand the sense of a step like this that owes more to ideology than to any specific reason, since I don't think the nation's treasury can earn very much from the sale of the Bank of the Nation; there is no market for it," he added.

In response to a question, Gomez Morales said that if they want to have the official banks make their balance sheets public, "there are other direct ways to accomplish that without resorting to such a stratagem." He insisted that this is a move "designed to distract attention from the important issues in the economy."

In reference to the overall program of Minister Alemann, he said that while the measure "does have a sort of rationality, " its focus "lacks any social sensitivity," since this move, "coming after the military government's initial economic program, is adding insult to injury."

Dr Emilio Hardoy

The conservative leader, Emilio Hardoy, when asked by a metropolitan radio station about the move to partially privatize the Bank of the

Nation, termed it "an interesting initiative," though he cautioned that "there are precedents and experiences that should be carefully considered."

He recalled that the Bank of the Province of Buenos Aires "had some problems during an earlier crisis, but it was then reformed in combination with a local bank, and a mixed public-private bank was created, with its president appointed by the provincial governor, with the approval of the Senate, but with the majority of its board of directors representing private capital interests."

"In that way," continued Hardoy, "the bank grew in both size and prestige, and achieved an extraordinary development until it was taken over by the government under Peron."

On the possibility of obtaining private capital for the partial destatization of the Bank of the Nation, he said that there is "a mass of large savers who place their money in 30-day accounts in institutions which do not merit any great amount of confidence or prestige, but which are backed by an official commitment. That money is a gold mine that could be used to strengthen the Bank of the Nation."

Reaction of the FAA [Argentine Agrarian Federation]

The head of the Argentine Agrarian Federation, Humberto Volando, said: "We rural producers are alarmed, and I think that the country should be aware of the consequences that will occur if this initiative is pursued."

Volando also stated his opposition to the possible elimination or reform of the national meat and grain boards, and said he trusts that these two organizations will be kept if the national executive and the Legislative Advisory Commission "properly analyze" the issue.

Reaction of Alfredo Concepcion

According to the radical economist and former secretary of industry, Alfredo Concepcion, privatizing the Bank of the Nation is "giving up the full exercise of our sovereignty," and he termed the plan announced by Alemann "deplorable and senseless."

"He [the minister] has a foreign name, as alien to the nation as what he is proposing," he said in reference to the finance minister.

He spoke ironically, saying that Alemann has become known as "the great corrector." "Every time he makes a statement, it has to be corrected later."

In closing, he restated his opposition to the plan to privatize the Bank of the Nation. He said: "This is not an economic problem, but rather a matter of national identity."

Zalduendo's Reaction

Eduardo Zalduendo, former president of the Central Bank, said that he wondered if Alemann's plan "is appropriate for the nation."

"Anything affecting the Bank of the Nation is too serious a political issue to think of allowing the government to privatize it without holding any type of popular referendum," he declared.

Asked whether he considered the present time the right time to have this sort of privatization, he said that "it would not be the best time to begin to look for capital."

"In reality, this would only be a transfer between the private sector and the government sector. It would be much better if this private capital were to be used for some other type of new activity," he concluded.

CGT Opposed to Privatization

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 Jan 82 p 5

[Text] The executive board of the CGT [General Labor Confederation] released a statement in which "it calls upon the armed forces to reflect so that they will patriotically oppose the antinational proposal to destatize the official bank; this plan only favors multinational interests, to the detriment of all our people, who will act with determination in opposing this step, in order to defend our national sovereignty and avoid a monopoly of economic and financial concentration which only serves to oppress the people, bringing them need, desperation, unemployment, and poverty."

"Privatizing Fever"

The statement resolves "to reject this privatizing fever let loose by liberal minds as priority matters to 'improve our national economy'."

The statement went on to criticize the fact that "first the official bank will be destatized, then it will be privatized, and finally the agents of regression will offer multinational financial corporations total control of our national credit and savings. Today the Bank of the Nation and the Bank of the Province of Buenos Aires are being considered for liquidation. Both acted as pioneers, by opening up branches in cities and towns where their branches were not profitable, but they helped to strengthen the nation and the province by serving these communities."

Finally, the statement said that "the result of these closures of unprofitable banks, followed by unemployment, will be acts that will make the news everyday."

From the Union Sectors

Delegates at the latest plenary meeting of bank employees held in La Plata released a statement at the CGT offices "about the announcements of the privatization of official banks, the withdrawal of government backing from bank deposits, the denationalization of banks, and the merger of financial institutions. All these moves," they agreed, "have harmed our bank employees."

The statement points out that "in countries such as the United States and France, savers' deposits are insured by the government. Experience in this matter in Chile, when Augusto Pinochet withdrew the government's backing from bank deposits, ended in failure, and the government's insurance had to be restored after four of the major private banks in Chile failed." Finally, the statement quoted the economist Milton Friedman, who said that "when the government has been completely absent from the financial system, these financial systems have been proved to be unstable."

The National Banking Movement agreed "to ask all banks for an emergency salary increase, to support all steps designed to bring about normalization of bank union's activities, and to continue the steps begun to maintain jobs. The organization feels that these actions are consistent with the integral defense of the bank workers."

7679

CSO: 3010/816

GRAIN CROP ESTIMATES NEAR 35 MILLION TONS

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 6 Feb 82 p 3

[Text] Based on recent data on the acreage planted and harvested in various grains and oleaginous plants, official sources estimate that the physical volume of the 1981-82 harvest will be very close, if it does not actually exceed, 35 million tons. Of this harvest, about 20 million tons could be exported. This means another big harvest for Argentina.

In addition, based on international market prices and the volume that Argentina should be able to export, it is quite possible that the total of grains, oils, vegetables, and byproducts may exceed \$3.5 billion. If we add to this figure our meat exports, the total may be very close to \$4.3 billion.

Grains

Based on these estimates, the wheat harvest will be approximately 8 million tons, of which 4.4 million tons will be used for domestic consumption, and 3.6 million tons will be exported. The international price might be approximately \$181 per ton, so that our wheat earnings should be approximately \$633.5 million.

Our corn production is expected to be between 10.8 and 11 million tons. After deducting our domestic consumption of 3.3 million tons, this would leave about 7.5 million tons for export. At a price of \$117 per ton of corn, our corn crop would earn us \$877.5 million.

Our sorghum crop should be approximately 7.1 million tons. Our domestic consumption will be approximately 2.1 million tons, leaving 5 million tons for export. At a price of \$105 per ton, we would earn \$525 million from sorghum this year.

The soybean crop is estimated at 4.3 million tons, which would leave 1.5 million tons for export after deducting the 1.8 million tons used for our domestic consumption. At \$240 per ton, this amount would earn us \$600 million.

The sunflower harvest has been estimated at 1.6 million tons, though it may be larger. Of this amount, we could export 0.05 ton. At a price of \$270 per ton, it would earn us \$13.5 million.

Finally, Argentina's other grains--sesame seed, rice, oats, barley, rye, flax, millet, peanuts, and dried beans--should produce a total of about 2.5 million tons. We will use about 1.6 million tons for our own consumption. If we export 1.1 million tons at an average price of \$270, these crops will earn us \$270 million.

Vegetable Oils

All the oleaginous crops combined--soy, sunflower, flax (linseed oil), and peanuts--should amount to 920,000 tons; of this amount, 180,000 tons would be used for domestic consumption, leaving 740,000 tons for export. At average estimated prices of \$420 per ton for soy oil, \$530 per ton for sunflower oil, \$540 for linseed oil, and \$630 for peanut oil, the total would be \$372 million.

Byproducts

Oleaginous byproducts will amount to 2.3 million tons, and of this, 1.6 million tons could be exported at \$210 per ton. Grain byproducts will amount to 1.1 million tons, of which 800,000 kilos could be exported at a price of \$100 per ton.

In summary, the harvest may well amount to 34.3 million tons of grains and 1.02 million tons of oleaginous plants. The grains will have an approximate value of \$3 billion, and the oils of \$500 million. These figures are, of course, only estimates, as we said earlier, but they may be quite useful because they do give us a clear idea of the earnings of our agricultural sector in terms of our trade balance this year.

7679

CSO: 3010/816

GRAIN EMBARGO POSSIBILITY WORRIES PRODUCERS, EXPORTERS

Buenos Aires SOMOS in Spanish 22 Jan 82 pp 44-45

[Article by Ruben Chorny]

[Text] With their faint green dotted lines, the computer display screens that link the local grain producers with their commercial Mecca in Chicago reflected a red alert: behind abrupt movements in price quotations there was a message that something would be changing in future sales. This something could be nothing other than the possibility of another grain embargo by the United States against the Soviet Union.

Telephone calls have poured in to contacts in Washington and to the Argentine foreign ministry. Had Ronald Reagan decided on a boycott, and would the west join in such a boycott to slow down the Russian drive against Poland? The only thing definite in this chain of questions was that NEWSWEEK had quoted words of the president that indicated sanctions and that the issue, while it had caused some concern in Argentine diplomatic circles, did not go beyond an unconfirmed statement reported in the press.

Nonetheless, this hypothesis called for a tentative clarification of positions by the political and commercial branches of the government. There was nothing formal, but with an embargo in sight the waters were divided: a diplomatic intent to maintain at all costs the good relations that are being cultivated with the United States, on one side; and an economic-commercial view based on our status as a humble partner, plus Argentina's need for foreign currency to shore up its balance of payments.

The analysis centered on the amplitude of the possible embargo: which countries and which products would be involved, and what would happen to prices if the 20 percent of the world transactions they absorb were not sold to the Soviets. Even though Reagan is still just considering it, the possibility of a food boycott immediately

alerted those who would be most directly affected by its impact. The man who was chairman of the National Grain Board during the time of Martinez de Hoz and who is now undersecretary of agriculture, David Lacroze Ayerza, told SOMOS: "I do not support state intervention in the free market. And a step of this nature would be such an intervention. But if the case were actually to arise, the final decision would have to be made by the Foreign Ministry, with the approval of the president."

Can an embargo be accepted when there are contracts to supply 4.5 million tons of grain this year?

"That is a matter that will have to be decided; but let's take a look at what happened when the Carter administration decided on an embargo after the Russian invasion of Afghanistan. And we must remember that the U.S. contracts with the Soviets have already been fulfilled. The Argentine Foreign Ministry, however, can interpret for itself issues related to sovereignty, foreign policy, etc., apart from any other reasons."

What is apparent when we examine the situation is that the Soviet Union is buying grains, meats, wool, and animal hides from Argentina, amounting to a total value of \$3 billion. This is almost a third of our total exports, and in the case of grain, the USSR buys 80 percent of Argentina's sales.

In your opinion, should we stand firm and defend this principle and support solidarity with our natural allies, or should we base our decision on economic reasons?

"Supporting a food embargo would not be consistent with our open trade policy. In ethical and moral terms, even though we may be in agreement, it would not be fair to ask us to make the greatest sacrifice in this embargo. In purely commercial terms, why should we have to give our reasons and arguments to countries that use subsidies to support their domestic production, adopting protectionist measures that hurt us, as the Europeans do? Concerning the scope of the boycott, it would be different if it were general. It is hard for the United States to ask Argentina to do what other, more powerful allies have not agreed to give up. Corn, for Argentina's balance of payments, is what technology is for Germany. And Germany did not say it was ready to give up its profits from the gas pipeline from Siberia."

The CRA [Argentine Rural Confederations] also expressed its views. In addition to a document it released, the organization's president, Juan Romero Feris, spoke with SOMOS:

"The possibility of a new boycott against the communist nations should cause us to review in an absolutely clear and honest way the status of our exports; this does not mean, though, that we should renounce our convictions and our support for the Western and Christian world."

Speaking in private, behind the embargo the producers see a price decline coming of no less than 20 percent. As the United States has already shipped almost all of the 8 million tons of grain covered by its contracts with the Soviets, the implementation of the embargo would affect all of Argentina's harvest. We would have to seek new and cheaper markets.

A similar concern was expressed by local grain producers. According to the president of the Grain Exchange, Jose Manny Lalor: "In the first place, an embargo has a commercial impact. But it is a political and strategic issue. Its commercial impact is felt because in this case it causes the world's largest purchaser to disappear from the market. This would inexorably lead to a market collapse. And this makes us think: who should have to pay for this firm stance of the west, especially in light of the rather lukewarm support we see for economic sanctions in some major countries, such as the European nations? World experience indicates that no embargo works if it is not backed up by force, such as naval and land blockades, because, without such blockades, three-cornered markets appear, along with other indirect forms of trade that are stimulated by high prices. This means that even grain from the United States finds its way into Russia; this happened during the last embargo."

The president of the Continental export firm, Carlos Oris de Roa, spoke of the ethical and moral positions of condemnation that would be inspired by a direct Russian intervention in Poland. "For Argentina, supporting an economic blockade against Iron Curtain countries entails an extremely great sacrifice which, in terms of grain, is even greater because our grain exports to the Soviet Union amount to 80 percent of the total. We would be forced to hunt desperately for new markets. This would cause the domestic prices of our products to decline, and would entail heavy financing and storage charges because we would have to hold on to our exportable grain beyond the normal period of 3 or 4 months."

Based on what you have said, then, do you totally reject Argentina's participation in a trade embargo by the Western countries against the Soviet Union?

"We would have to look at this very carefully and compare the sacrifices to be made by Argentina with the sacrifices made by the other allied nations. Thus, our support for the embargo would have

to be contingent on respecting our right to export a minimum of 4.5 million tons of grain, which has already been committed by Argentina to the Soviet Union, since the United States has already shipped its grain under its bilateral contract with the Soviets. We should also require that the blockade by the other countries be a total blockade, and for the United States that it not be just a food blockade, but also a technological embargo. And finally, the United States should have to compensate us financially for the greater proportional sacrifice that the embargo would mean for us."

If the decision were purely a matter of arithmetic, the issue of support for an international sanction against the Soviet imperialistic thrust would not withstand any further analysis. But we have to remember Henry Kissinger's comment: "Trade should not be considered strictly in commercial terms, but it should be linked with the global political conduct of the Western world."

7679

CSO: 3010/816

CENTRAL BANK REPORT PAINTS GLOOMY PICTURE OF ECONOMY

Declines in Key Sectors

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 5 Feb 82 p 1

[Text]

ALL three key productive sectors of the Barbados economy, tourism, manufacturing and sugar, declined during 1981, and the prospects for growth in 1982 are very limited.

This gloomy picture of the local economy was painted by Central Bank Governor Dr. Courtney Blackman yesterday in a review of its performance last year and prospects for this year.

Dr. Blackman said that tourist arrivals to the island fell by about five percent during 1981. The decline was sharpest in the North American markets with arrivals from Canada and the United States falling by 19 and 15 percent, respectively, although there was a surprising 35 percent increase in the United Kingdom market.

Manufacturing output declined by an estimated four percent "after six years of growth averaging eight percent".

The performance of sugar was worse of all and Dr. Blackman described it as "disastrous", having suffered a 30 percent decline in output over 1980, and 95 000 tonnes of sugar produced being the lowest since 1948.

"The 61 000 tonnes exported fetched an average price of \$841 per tonne, compared with \$948 per tonne in 1980. On the other hand, production costs for the industry increased by almost 30 percent to \$1 106 per tonne of sugar," it was declared.

Another negative influence on 1981 was the high level of Government capital expenditure, coupled with the weak revenue performance, which led to a serious fall in Government finances.

Dr. Blackman said that capital expenditures of \$186.6 million, reflecting considerable cost over-runs, were \$84 million more than in 1980, and current expenditures, reflecting an inflated wage and salaries bill and substantial increase in welfare payments, rose by 17.4 percent to reach \$442.3 million.

At the same time current revenues rose by only 6.7 percent, as compared to a rise of almost 25 percent in 1980, to yield \$449 million, and the overall deficit for 1981 of \$180 million was more than three times that for 1980 and was the highest on record.

"This sizeable Government deficit could not be comfortably financed by external project loans and from the domestic commercial banking system and so the Central Bank was forced to accommodate the Government," Dr. Blackman said.

He added: "By the end of October Central Bank credit had increased by \$85 million; it has since been reduced by \$62 million. The consequent increase in the money supply permitted Barbadians to increase their retained imports by 14 percent to exceed one billion dollars for the first time ever."

More Sugar Layoffs

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 5 Feb 82 p 1

[Text]

THREE more sugar factories have laid off workers.

This was confirmed yesterday by an official of the Barbados Sugar Factories Limited.

They are Foursquare, which laid off just over 50, and Carrington in St. Philip and Bulwary, in St. George.

The report said that the workers, mainly welders, masons, mechanics and some unskilled labourers, were employed to prepare the factories for grinding canes and to work during the process.

It was said that there was nothing for them to do because the harvesting was held up by the incomplete negotiations between the Barbados Sugar Producers Federation and the Barbados Workers Union for a new wages and conditions of work contract.

Sugar 'Collapse' Warning

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 5 Feb 82 p 1

[Excerpt] Governor of the Central Bank Dr. Courtney Blackman said yesterday that the sugar industry is in danger of collapsing, and warned that should that happen all Barbadians will suffer a sharp decline in their standard of living.

At the same time the Central Bank official said it is important that the industry be allowed to generate enough funds for investment in its future and in the future of us all.

Dr. Blackman told a news conference that a number of plantations are in a state of virtual bankruptcy resulting from many years of severe losses.

He said that plantations owed debts to the Barbados National Bank (BNB) totalling some Bds\$16 million, and that the industry was existing on what he called "a hand-to-mouth basis."

He said that before any new wage increases, the industry this year will suffer considerable losses.

According to Dr. Blackman: "No industry can sustain losses over a long period without serious consequences for its productive capabilities and indeed its very survival."

He said that from the production of almost 200 000 tonnes in 1967, the industry was now struggling to produce half that amount.

Threat of Wage Demands

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 5 Feb 82 p 1

[Excerpt]

The Central Bank yesterday warned that the level of wage increases currently being demanded by the trade unions in Barbados threatened to destroy the island's balance of payments, and plunge a large number of persons into unemployment.

The warning was issued by Central Bank Governor Dr. Courtney Blackman as he outlined another bleak year for the Barbados economy.

Dr. Blackman told a news conference it was absolutely essential that wages and salary increases in both the

private and public sectors be kept within responsible limits.

According to the Central Bank chief: "I strongly advise the trade unions to take a leaf out of the book of their colleagues in Europe and North America and concentrate during the recession on the retention of jobs and the survival of their industries."

Dr. Blackman said he was aware that workers have been laid off from their jobs, and added "that if the wage increases are not responsible wage increases there will be more."

Sugar Wage Settlement

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 6 Feb 82 pp 1, 11

[Excerpt] The Barbados Government last night imposed a settlement to a drawn-out sugar dispute which has delayed the start of the 1982 harvest.

Prime Minister Tom Adams announced that the administration had moved under a 1968 law to fix the level of wage increases for this year and 1983.

Workers are to receive a 10 per cent pay rise for each year, which is well below the 35 per cent for which the Barbados Workers Union (BWU) was insisting, but substantially more than what the sugar manufacturers might have been prepared to yield.

The employers had said that because of a disastrous performance in 1981, with losses estimated at \$20 million they could not afford a pay rise this year.

To partly meet the increase, Mr. Adams said, the local selling price of sugar has been increased to 48 cents, 55 cents and 65 cents a pound, respectively, for the three grades (105, 120 and 145 cents per kilo), respectively.

The Prime Minister said government intended later this year to introduce legislation for full profit-sharing in the sugar industry between owners and workers.

3025/175

BRIEFS

ADAMS ON IDB--Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams returned home Sunday night from Portugal where he represented the Caribbean region at a board meeting of the Inter American Development Bank (IDB). The conference last Thursday and Friday was primarily to discuss the sixth replenishment of the bank funds for the 1983-86 period. Mr. Adams told reporters at the airport that he had vigorously opposed the IDB's use of the World Bank mechanism known "graduation"--a grading system whereby member countries as they become better off economically lose access to certain bank funds. Said Mr. Adams: "I was able to put our point forcefully ... that there should be no graduation of countries at all. That we should remain all (equal) members of the bank even though certain countries' needs maybe greater than others, and indeed even though some countries like Venezuela and Trinidad (and Tobago) borrow from the bank--no more than do the United States and or Canada--but they put funds ... and they lend to the bank to lend to others." The Barbados leader said he also fought "the expressed wish of the United States to put in as little cash as possible but to authorise the bank to borrow more because they consider that inevitably it will mean that the costs of funds will rise and small countries that are ill able to afford today's interest rates will not be able to afford loans on the new terms." [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 2 Feb 82 p 1]

MORE DEVELOPMENT BONDS--Cabinet yesterday approved \$10 million in National Development Bonds, and these should be on the market shortly. Prime Minister Tom Adams made this disclosure yesterday while delivering the feature address at the Barbados Development Bank's (BDB), annual general meeting. He said these were guaranteed by the Government and he expected that insurance companies and other financial institutions would subscribe to the issue. He also reminded commercial banks that these bonds may be used as part of their secondary reserves with the Central Bank of Barbados. With regards to the economy, Adams said it was not in as good a shape as it was when he last addressed such a meeting of the BDB. He said: "Because of the openness of our economy, Barbados is particularly affected by the difficulties of its major trading partners in the industrialised world. "The global problems of continuing inflation, high energy costs, a pronounced tendency regionally and internationally towards protectionism, fluctuating exchange rates and, of more recent vintage, very high interest rates, have made a very serious negative impact on the Barbadian economy. He noted that despite these constraints, Barbados had been able to manage its economy with such prudence as to avoid the more dramatic illnesses which have befallen other developing countries. The Prime Minister also took time out to praise former vice president of the bank, Fred Gollop, who gave up the position to become chairman of the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC). Gollop was also praised by the Chairman of the BDB, David Seale. [Bridgetown THE NATION in English 5 Feb 82 p 1]

MINISTER REAFFIRMS COUNTRY'S INDEPENDENT STATUS

PA232200 Paris AFP in Spanish 2247 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Belize, 22 Feb (AFP)—Speaking to a group of young national army recruits, Assad Shoman, Belizean education, housing, health and cooperatives minister, said that "the sovereignty of Belize as an independent nation is not for sale."

Shoman told the new recruits that "no nation, even a small one, must be subjected to the interests or bow to the pressures of any other nation, no matter how powerful or big it may be."

In speaking about a recent agreement with the United States, in which the United States will train the Belizean defense forces, Minister Shoman said that such an agreement shows that the United States "is now committed to maintaining the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Belize."

Despite its proclamation as an independent republic in September 1981 Belize's defense is in the hands of British troops and several vertical-take-off carrier planes because of Guatemalan claims to Belizean territory.

Meanwhile, the small Belizean defense army is gradually increasing its military potential to levels that will allow it to effectively defend its sovereignty.

On the other hand, it is expected that joint UK-U.S. training of the Belizean Army will help neutralize Guatemalan military threats.

At the same time, it is expected that the presence of the United States in Belize, although this presence is reduced, will put the Guatemalan Government at least regarding the possibility that opposition guerrilla groups will establish their bases of operation here.

CSO: 3010/935

ENERGY PROSPECTS, GOALS FOR 1982 OUTLINED

La Paz HCY in Spanish 13 Jan 82 p 2

[Text] The hydrocarbon sector will devote most of its efforts this year to the drilling of development wells at the Vuelta Grande field.

The government oil enterprise attaches the utmost importance to the development of Vuelta Grande in order to stop the decline in the volume of crude oil production.

The same policy includes secondary recovery in Camiri and Monteagudo, but for this purpose huge investments will have to be made through loans that are being negotiated with international organizations.

The following summary of energy and hydrocarbon activities in 1981 and projections for this year will show that the electricity sector also has some interesting projects scheduled, in its efforts to meet energy demands throughout the nation.

According to the ministry's report, in the areas of electricity and hydrocarbons a large percentage of the programs scheduled for 1981 were completed.

The exploration of non-renewable natural resources was a top priority from the beginning. The necessary stimulus has been provided for the exploration of hydrocarbon reserves. It should be noted that 13 wells were drilled in 1981, which is more than has been done in recent years.

The advances in the construction of gas pipelines such as the Sucre-Potosi and Monteagudo-Sucre pipelines and the lines to sugar mills such as the Colpa-Mineros and Barraderos-Bermejo pipelines, are also noteworthy.

We should also give particular mention to the initiation of basic engineering studies for the gas pipeline to Brazil.

In the area of electricity, in 1981 the line to the Yungas (warm valleys) of La Paz was completed; the Corani Dam is being expanded, and work is underway to divert the Malaga River. The line to Rio Abajo from the suburbs of La Paz has also been completed.

It can be stated, moreover, that in 1981 the distributing enterprises substantially expanded their networks toward new sections of the department capitals.

Thanks to adequate price levels, the enterprises of the energy sector such as Government Oil Deposits (YPFB), ENDE [expansion unknown] and the electricity distribution enterprises, will yield satisfactory economic-financial results during this year. Most of the projects they had scheduled for last year were completed.

Thus, it will be necessary to maintain that level of prices so that these enterprises can continue to carry out their plans and programs.

Here is an accounting of most of the activities undertaken in each of the energy subsectors, as well as their projections for 1982:

Hydrocarbon Subsector

In prospecting and exploration, the state petroleum entity carried out a series of projects in 1981 that offered high expectations for the future in terms of work to be done in the coming year.

Thus, oil prospecting was furthered with the seismic surveying of more than 1,000 kilometers and geological surveying of 860 kilometers.

The measurement of gas reserves continued in 1981, with the seismic prospecting and drilling of five wells in the fields of Yapacani, Santa Rosa, Palometas and Enconada.

As for the drilling of development wells, three were completed in the Vuelta Grande field and five were done to increase production in the fields of Caranda and Colpa.

In Vuelta Grande alternatives are being studied for the installation of a gas plant.

In industrial activities, the study of the plan to build a nitrogenous fertilizer plant was completed; the plant is to be built in 1982.

An isopentane plant was also completed at the Palmasola refinery, and another plant for the recovery of oils used at the Cochabamba refinery was also finished.

Concerning the construction and equipping of lines, it can be noted that during this year work was continued to adapt one of the OCOLP [expansion unknown] lines to carry liquid petroleum gas; at present a little more than 22 percent of the project has been completed.

The project for the construction of a gas pipeline from the Santa Cruz fields to Cochabamba, Oruro and La Paz, while subject to delays in 1981, did complete the final engineering study in 1981, through a foreign consulting firm.

The Sucre-Potosi gas pipeline was finished last April. The final tests are pending right now.

The expansion of the Monteagudo-Sucre gas pipeline is 34 percent completed.

The basic engineering study for the gas pipeline to Brazil was conducted in 1981; the project is being carried out by a foreign consulting firm with United Nations financing.

Projects for 1982 include the following:

Prospecting work, mainly on the Chaco-Beniana plain and the Sub-Andean area, being undertaken by YPFB with its own management and resources.

The drilling of 30 wells to discover hydrocarbon reserves in the structures defined by prospecting.

The continuation of efforts to verify and quantify the volume of natural gas reserves.

The state petroleum enterprise plans to drill 40 wells to explore the reserves in the El Espino and Palmar fields, as well as other new fields. It will drill another 18 wells to increase the yield of the fields currently being developed.

Work will also continue forward on the drilling of development wells in the Vuelta Grande field, and secondary recovery will go on at Camiri and Monteagudo.

As for transportation lines, work will continue on the Monteagudo-Sucre gas pipeline and the Bermejo-Tarija gas pipeline, as well as the recovery of gas from the Yacacani, Enconada, Palometas and Santa Rosa fields, to be delivered to the proposed Santa Cruz-San Pablo gas pipeline.

Electricity Sector

Among the principal projects undertaken in the electrical energy field in 1981 are the following:

Construction and operation of the La Paz-Chojilla line to supply electricity to the Yungas region.

Expansion of the Corani Dam and diversion of the Malaga River to the Corani reservoir through a 13-kilometer tunnel.

Opening of thermoelectric plants in Villamontes and Camargo, and operation of Trinidad thermoelectric plant.

Reenergization of the rural electrification system in the altiplano and Yungas regions.

Some parts of the San Jacinto hydroelectric project have been completed, such as the diversion tunnel and an access road. Bids have been awarded on other projects.

The bidding documents of the Sakhahuaya project in the department of La Paz are under study, as is the executive design of the ICLA [expansion unknown] hydroelectric project in the departments of Potosi and Chuquisaca (100,000 kw). The Pilaya project (90,000 kw) and the Cachuela Esperanza project (10,000 kw) in the department of Beni are undergoing feasibility studies. Finally, a field study for the final design of the Misicuni hydroelectric project is underway.

The projects to be undertaken by ENDE in 1982 are as follows:

Construction of a line to connect Santa Isabel and Santa Cruz.

Expansion of the Trinidad thermoelectric plant.

Construction of the San Jacinto project, to be completed in 1984; bidding with financing by ENDE and contributions by the government and participating entities.

Final design and initiation of construction on ICLA project.

Operation of gas turbine in Potosi and another in Santa Cruz.

Final design of Misicuni project.

Phase II of Rural Electrification, with financing by the Inter-American Development Bank and contributions from the central government.

Construction of the Sakhahuaya hydroelectric project (86,000 kw), at an estimated cost of US \$120 million.

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CSO: 3010/818

ECONOMIC INSTABILITY THREATENS SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM

La Paz ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 3 Feb 82 p 3

[Text] In view of the constant deterioration of the economic-financial situation of our country, the passive sector made up of pensioners receiving Social Security is undergoing a psychological and material pressure that, when considered in light of its real magnitude, constitutes a genuine violation of human rights. The 1948 American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, in its Article XVI, states: "Every person has the right to social security to protect him from the consequences of unemployment, old age and disability which, stemming from any other cause beyond his control, prevents him physically or mentally from obtaining the means of subsistence." The Universal Declaration of the Rights of Man, approved by the United Nations in Paris that same year, says in its Article 22: "Every person, as a member of society, has the right to social security, and to obtain, through national effort and international cooperation, giving due consideration to the organization and resources of each State, satisfaction of the economic, social and cultural rights that are indispensable to his dignity and to the free development of his personality." Finally, the Political Constitution of the State, in the section on the Social System, is clear on this matter: Anyone who has rendered services for pay and has contributed regularly to the National Social Security Fund (CNSS) and the Complementary Funds, has a vested right to receive a retirement pension that will allow him to live out his days free of poverty.

But what is actually happening in Bolivia? The worker, be he blue-collar or white-collar, who decides to retire obtains a fixed pension after submitting his documents for qualification. That pension does not vary if the currency is devalued, and his purchasing power declines steadily because of the inflationary spiral. The result is that Social Security is just a theoretical expression, because the retiree, besides having no opportunity to work in any new activity to provide him with additional resources so he can survive, is condemned to permanent pauperism which drives him to the brink of desperation. In other countries, Social Security allotments are adjustable, just as wages and salaries are; they rise when the currency is devalued, because that is nothing more than social justice. It is discriminatory for the active sector to obtain wage and salary increases while the passive sector is condemned to hunger. If the economic measures announced by the government are to have any impact on the cost of living, the situation of the passive sector must be taken into consideration, and pensions must be adjusted. Anything else would be tantamount to aggression against Social Security, and virtual genocide of those who have retired.

For reasons stemming from the improvisation and disorder of the administration, the large sums that are deducted from payrolls each month to contribute to Social Security are not deposited automatically in CNSS or the Complementary Funds. This anomaly is really a violation of the law, because funds are being diverted to other uses not originally called for. Consequently, the agencies responsible for Social Security lack the funds to pay pensioners and to provide the many services entrusted to them. It is said that at present both state and private entities owe Social Security several hundred million Bolivian pesos, without any immediate possibility of recovering these significant debts, even though the funds were duly deducted from payrolls. That diversion of funds is a crime. If the money is not recovered, there is a risk of creating a sort of financial "crack" that could bring down the entire Social Security system, leaving many thousands of people out in the cold because they have no source of income other than the meager sum their retirement pension brings them.

This is a very serious matter that must be confronted with clarity and good sense, before the situation gets out of hand and brings serious consequences.

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CSO: 3010/818

ECLA STUDY SHOWS 1977 START OF ECONOMIC DECLINE

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 1 Feb 82 p 3

[Excerpts] The Bolivian economy has been declining more sharply since 1977, reaching its nadir in 1981, according to the study conducted by the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA).

According to this study, Bolivia had an overall Gross Domestic Product growth rate of 6.8 percent in 1976. That figure began to decline the following year when it reached 3.4 percent, and it was less than 1 percent in 1981.

This downward trend has been characteristic of the Latin American economy as a whole during those same years, and indicates that in 1982 the trend will continue, says the ECLA study.

Bolivia

Referring to Bolivia, the ECLA study states that in "1981 the loss of dynamism that had characterized the economy since 1977 was accentuated."

Thus, the per capita Gross Domestic Product had a growth rate of -3.3 percent in that year, and declined steadily; in 1979 the figure was -0.6, and in 1980 it was -1.8.

The principal Bolivian export is tin, which experienced a negative growth rate. In 1979 exports of that product rose by 19.9 percent, but the following year they dropped by 8.7 percent, and in 1981 by 17.7 percent.

These negative indicators for the year that just ended have been continued in 1982, according to Bolivian economic analysts.

The ECLA analysis comments that "the task that awaits us today is not easy, just as it wasn't in the thirties."

However, ECLA proposes some solutions. Among other suggestions, it says that to emerge from the present crisis "an initial basic evaluation should take into account the social effects of the regressive situation, and the challenges that should be faced in adjustment policies."

"In any case," it goes on, "the central objective of any policy or series of policies designed to deal with this problem should be the proper distribution of the burden of adjustment measures among the various social sectors."

It stresses: "Today more than ever, the income levels of the poorer sectors and unemployment should be key elements of these compensatory policies, not just a residual element of them."

8926

CSO: 3010/818

LA PALCA CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS REVIEWED

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 31 Jan 82 p 8

[Text] The La Palca Volatilization Plant, long yearned for by the people of Potosi, represents a new source of hope for the Mining Corporation of Bolivia (COMIBOL), which wants to implement a scientific and technical process that will produce high profits with a high percentage of recovery of low-grade tin concentrates. After 10 years, however, the plant is still floundering in uncertainty.

The original cost, estimated at \$6 million, has risen to \$70 million today. Countless problems have arisen during its construction and operation, and there was a landslide where the volatilizer was located. The upshot is that after 10 years, the plant is still a mere chimera for Potosi residents, and has given rise to uncertainty about its future.

The technical and economic motivations for the installation of the plant are outlined in a report presented to the COMIBOL Board of Directors on 6 November 1967.

This report was based on the processes in use at the time to recover minerals, and on the limited economic and financial prospects of the enterprise. The average tin recovery in COMIBOL mines and mills in 1968 was 54.5 percent, which meant that the enterprise was losing 50 percent of its tin, as it left the mills in the form of tails, and accumulated in tailings and overburdens.

Given the international market prices of the time, to raise recovery figures by 1 percent would bring COMIBOL an additional income of \$1 million.

The report claimed that the low recovery of ores was due to: the complexity and low quality of deposits; the gradual deterioration of equipment; the relatively high tin content in the mills (35 percent tin); and the lack of skilled labor to deal with mineral concentration.

COMIBOL technicians justified the use of the volatilization method because it ensures a tin recovery of about 90 percent when applied to low-grade concentrates (1 to 5 percent); when heated in contact with pyrite, those concentrates produce a volatile stannous sulfate which, when air-cooled, precipitates in filters in the form of stannic oxide dust with a tin content that fluctuates between 45 and 50 percent.

These concentrates, when subjected to mechanical fractioning in the Vinto Metallurgical Complex, can be converted in turn into high-quality concentrates.

After a Bolivian technical mission traveled abroad to visit several facilities in West Germany, the United States and the Netherlands, the Bolivian Government headed by Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez approved the signing of a pact with the Soviet enterprise Machineexport for the installation of the Potosi volatilization plant. This pact was signed in Moscow on 5 June 1972.

Later, it was learned that this contract was simply for the supply of machinery and equipment, and did not include any obligation or responsibility concerning the operation and production of the volatilizer.

On 16 October 1976, a report issued by the then technical manager of COMIBOL, Oscar Urdininea, based the selection of the volatilization process on the fact that "the nature of the veins in the Soviet tin deposits and their close similarity to Bolivian deposits, on the one hand, and the fact that in Siberia we were able to observe a volatilization plant with a daily capacity of 250 tons and to obtain the necessary information regarding the metallurgical indices and the unit consumption of fuel, power, fluxes and other items, on the other hand, both led COMIBOL to choose this process."

Technology

The technology was classified as a new process of sulfurous preconcentrates with a tin content not equalled anywhere in the world.

The process is based on the fusion-volatilization of preconcentrates in a fuming furnace.

This guarantees that the gases that come out of the smokestack are free of arsenic, thus maintaining clean air and ensuring the safety of workers, in accordance with standards in the USSR.

Contract

The contract signed on 6 June 1972 called for: "Supply of equipment and materials (machinery) for the construction and installation of the volatilization plant, with a daily capacity of 300 tons."

"Services of specialists for the supervision of the assembly, control, adjustment and operation of the facilities."

On 17 April 1973, the first addition to the contract was approved, in order to increase the capacity to 350 metric tons per day, with a sulfur content of 25 percent, at a cost of \$510,000.

On 29 November 1973 the second addition was approved, to change the plant's location. Originally, a site much closer to the city of Potosi had been approved. The additional cost was \$225,000.

Three alternatives were considered: Santa Lucia, La Puerta and La Palca. COMIBOL decided to locate the plant at the place known as La Palca, without any geological study.

A total of 15 additions, plus five new contracts, raised the cost of the plant from \$6 million to its present cost of more than \$70 million.

After 9 years of construction, which required new and greater expenditures that were raised even further by a landslide at the site, authorities approved the operation of the plant in August 1981.

The first tests, according to official reports, were not successful; there were several defects.

As of 16 October, the plant entered an operational stage with a greater capacity, and that capacity was enlarged further until it reached the maximum level in November 1981.

Pollution

"It was early in the morning on 18 November when we saw a bluish cloud descending on our fields. The sheep began to drool, as did the pigs, and we felt an irritation in our throats that caused us to cough and gave us stomach aches and nausea," was the testimony gathered by this writer after interviewing the peasants who live in the valley of La Palca.

At that time the plant was operating at full capacity.

The effects of the toxic arsenic gases that billowed out of the volatilizer's smokestack were felt by more than 10,000 peasants in 20 communities.

The valley is relatively fortunate in its location, considering the environmental conditions of Potosi. There vegetables, apples, plums and a great variety of flowers are grown.

The effects of the pollution that can be seen in the illustrations accompanying this article, also had repercussions among the residents of the region, as substantiated in a report by the National Institute of Occupational Health (INSO).

This report claimed that there was a complete lack of any safety system or standards for environmental pollution.

COMIBOL officials decided on 14 December to shut down the plant, and demanded that a high-level Soviet mission come to solve the problem.

After arduous secret negotiations, an agreement was reached with the signing of an additional pact ensuring the solution of environmental pollution problems.

This solution revolves around the extension of the smokestack 200 meters higher. At present it is 120 meters high, as decided by COMIBOL. Another aspect of the solution is the installation of a plant for the treatment of sulfuric acid.

National officials are very willing to face the problem. It is claimed that pollution will be kept to a minimum, in accordance with international standards.

Meanwhile, the peasants refuse to leave their land, which they say "was left to them by their grandfathers, and is their way of life."

Now 10 years have passed since the pact was signed, and the plant that was supposed to solve COMIBOL's economic problems has become a heavy burden on the state and a hazard for local residents. Its cost, originally \$6 million, has now soared to more than \$70 million.

8926

CSO: 3010/818

NAVAL TRAINING EXERCISE ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 4 Feb 82 pp 28-33

[Article by Jorge Luis Blanco]

[Text] "We shall perform the specified instruction task with a rating of 'good'"... the voice of the motor torpedo boat's political agitator is heard to say.

This is not the first time that I have sailed with the members of the "Granma Landing" Torpedo and Rocket Motor Boat Guard Brigade. I have seen them operate on many occasions, and admiration has always left its mark in the reporter's notebook. They are properly trained seamen; they know how to confront any combat situation with precision and speed, and they are completely aware of the vast responsibility that they are discharging in the defense of the Socialist Fatherland. Therefore, I do not have the slightest doubt of the fulfillment of every commitment that they make. If they say "good" it will be "good"; there is no other alternative.

The maneuver to move from the dock takes place even before the sun's rays have appeared in the east. A few moments earlier, the combat alarm had been heard over a loud-speaker, and within seconds the crew members took their combat positions in the surface units. Now, the motor torpedo boats are already leaving the base in search of the outlet of the road.

From the open bridge of the combat cabin, I observe the entire maneuver. Beside me is a sailor working with the rotary repeater to determine the ship's position during the coastal crossing.

"Depth...distance between boats...."

The initial data on the navigation and the orders from the commander are heard over the communications equipment.

I reach the combat cabin by means of a vertical ladder. Everything is in motion around the plotter, the radar repeater, the rudder, and the machine control panels... The commander himself, a young officer, Frigate Lt Juvencio Portuondo Zaldivar, is responsible for ascertaining the proper operation of each one of the navigation instruments and steering equipment of the motor torpedo boat.

While overseeing the navigator's work, he explains to me: "You are aboard the vanguard surface unit of a squadron for the last quarter of the year."

His putting it thusly, in a few words, and with the apparent indifference in which he expresses it, causes me to think of two things: one, that his modesty does

not allow him to go any further; and the other, that to him that incentive represents something normal which every surface unit in the Revolutionary Navy should have. I eventually reach a very personal conclusion: both elements are merged in the character of the motor torpedo boat commander.

However, that award cannot fail to be mentioned by the writer; because it was won with considerable effort in performing each of the tasks and missions of combat and political training with good quality: the correct conservation and maintenance of the equipment, and conscientious savings; in short, for each of the emulation indexes for which they had contracted.

And that vanguard status becomes even more gigantic when one realizes that the vast majority of the noncoms and sailors are from the last General Military Service draft. The same holds true of the officers, who have been graduated from recent courses at the Revolutionary Navy's Naval Academy.

Again turning toward the open bridge of the combat cabin, I found one of those officers, Ensign Juan Alberto Martinez. "I am second chief engineer," he remarks. "I have been only 5 months on this vessel, although previously, upon the conclusion of my studies, I also engaged in command practice here. That helped me greatly, because I put into practice what I had learned in the classrooms...."

His best way of expressing the thoroughness of his training is evident when one observes him at work on the machine control panel. Every movement of his hands evinces precision, and confidence in both himself and the modern equipment which he is operating....

By now the coastline is lost on the horizon. Contrary to what had been expected, owing to the entry of a cold front, a sea force of 3 or 4 is not noted. Calm predominates in the indigo blue water, and only a few clouds are pushed by the air, which is beginning to blow from the east. From one of the sides of the boat one can admire the magnificent takeoff and landing of several dozen flying fish....

"Clear for action...!"

The radar has picked up an "enemy" plane, and the steps to be taken for the air alert cause the personnel to appear at each combat station on the boat.

"Organize the observation...."

Every muscle becomes tense. The vessel's commander issues the orders with assurance: the antiaircraft firing recorders and controllers start to provide valuable information. The downing of the "intruder" depends largely on them.

"Target off starboard...."

All eyes simultaneously turn toward the direction indicated. The antiaircraft pieces also search and locate with their orifices the point that is now close in the blue sky.

"Fire....!"

The artilleryman, who has followed the entire course of the aircraft, presses the buttons at the exact moment. From the position that I occupy, the noise of the guns makes me lift my hands to my ears, and for a brief instant I even think that my eardrums have burst. However, I manage to follow the track of the death-dealing bullets to the end. The "air attack" is also being repelled by the rest of the boats....

"Target destroyed!"

The guns stop operating. There is complete silence; one can hear only the powerful roar of the engines, which are making the surface unit advance swiftly. Behind, there is a wake of churning water....

The first mission has been accomplished....

Another hour elapses before the next planned task is performed. I take advantage of that time to converse with the political work substitute for the chief of a squadron.

He remarks: "We are dedicating this exercise to the 23d anniversary of the victory of the revolution. It is part of the culmination of the first period of instruction for this year. It is essential for the practical training of the crew members as a whole, and especially with regard to firing with antiaircraft weapons, against both air and naval targets."

There is one aspect on which he wishes to place emphasis: savings. In this connection, the officer responds:

"As in the entire FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces], in the MGR [Revolutionary Navy] measures are being adopted to contribute toward savings, especially when we are sailing. The personnel are aware (and they are now putting it into practice) that it is necessary, among other things, to economize on fuel and lubricants, to make proper use of the machines and to perform periodic maintenance on them, to avoid leakage, and not to keep the different types of equipment turned on."

"And what about the political and party work?"

"To carry out the maneuvers, we devised a plan of activities to be conducted before, during and after them. For that purpose, various graphic and written propaganda was prepared, covering the main areas in which the efforts must be concentrated. Similarly, the emulation commitments were made and the work of the political agitators on each boat was organized, to keep up the enthusiasm among the personnel."

"Once the task was completed, analyses were made in which the shortcomings were detected, so as to be eliminated immediately. Incentives were given for improvements using different methods, and there was backing for the maintenance work on the combat equipment...."

Now, the alarm occurs owing to the presence of a naval target. The ostensible calmness disappears again aboard the motor torpedo boat. Once more, the communications radio "floods" the entire structure of the vessel with information and orders.

"Distance.... Cables...."

"Compass bearing...."

"Engine ahead...."

"Course...."

"Target aft.... Degrees...."

"Connect pieces....Firing circuit....Cooling pumps...."

"Ready...."

"Fire!"

And once again we admire the skill of these men, and the excellent training that they have acquired during long hours of instruction. The firing was good, very good, as usual....

Upon returning to the base, the crew puts into practice the information that they have learned to cope with any damage or emergency situation on the boat, by creating situations as close to real ones as possible.

The message is given:

"Waterway between frames 7 and 8 on the port side, and fire in one of the torpedo launching pipes."

Immediately, without wasting time, the brigade created for such contingencies acts efficiently.

In the battle to check damage, the moral and psychological training of the crews is of prime importance. There must be inculcated in every sailor, noncom or officer the ability to assess the situation sensibly, self-control, willingness, determination and the disposition to sacrifice one's own life to attain the goal that is being pursued. Everyone must be psychologically ready to resolve the damage without panic or confusion. The success of the battle to preserve the life of the vessel lies therein. These are major elements in the entire combat training system which are present in each of the men whom I now observe in action.

When I thought that we were returning "home", the order was issued to seal the motor torpedo boat in order to undertake its partial degasification. The personnel encased themselves in the garb for protection against mass extermination weapons, and engaged in the task of performing the new mission; also with satisfactory results.

At the dock, during the mooring, an officer remarked to me:

"This now was just a maneuver, and you saw how well we carried it out. If the targets had been real enemies, I think that we would have acted better....Don't you think so?"

"Of course I think so. No better proof is needed than that given today by the men of the 'Granma Landing' Torpedo and Rocket Motor Boat Guard Brigade."

The 1981-82 Year of Instruction is proceeding ahead here, and at full steam.

2909

CSO: 3010/916

MILITARY TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 11 Feb 82 p 55

[Article by Mario Rodriguez]

[Text] Recently, on the firing range of the Military Technical Institute, the 15th anniversary of this advanced military instruction center founded by our commander in chief on 1 February 1967 was celebrated with a military parade filled with color and martial spirit.

On the platform for the ceremony there were, among others, Div Gen Sixto Batista Santana, alternate member of the Politburo and chief of the Central Political Directorate of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces]; and Central Committee members Div Gen Arnaldo Ochoa, substitute for the minister of the FAR, and Div Gen Julio Casas Regueiro, substitute for the minister of the FAR and chief of the DAAFAR [Antiaircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force].

Also in attendance were other FAR generals, chiefs and officers, party and state leaders, Soviet military specialists and other guests.

During the course of the ceremony, certificates were presented to a group of founders of the center, including engineer Fernando Vecino Alegret, member of the Central Committee and minister of higher education, who was its first director.

At the beginning of the function, Pioneer Susana Turatis, escorted by two cadets, presented to Div Gen Sixto Batista an album containing pictures of the most critical and memorable occasions of the past 15 years of fruitful effort, to be delivered to the commander in chief.

At the planned time, and after the report from the chief of the troops, Col Francisco Goires Simon, to the reviewing officer, Brig Gen Moises Sio Wong, the military parade began, in which six units of students representing the different departments comprising the center took part.

Subsequently, there was a field and track competition in the 800, 400 and 100 meter categories, followed by a beautiful gymnastic presentation entitled "15th Anniversary of the ITM".

In making the concluding remarks at the ceremony, Capt Eladio Calvo Gonzalez, alternate member of the party's Central Committee and substitute for the chief of the FAR Central Political Directorate, underscored the role played by this CEM [Military Training Center] in the improvement and consolidation of our units' combat readiness

and capacity: "The work performed since the creation of this center," he stated, "has been typified by a constant effort aimed at fulfilling the assigned mission, preeminent in which is the training of new generations of officers, engineers and technicians for the various FAR units."

After citing some of the most important areas of work wherein there must be a continued display of persistent, systematic effort, Capt Eladio Calvo stressed the results of these past 15 years of constant activity:

"The results accrued during these past 15 years," he noted, "merit the most just recognition for the work of the teaching, student and security personnel of this entire group and, at the same time, in fact, constitute a major starting point for meeting the lofty requirements established for this center."

Then, after emphasizing the importance of proper organization and operation of the instructional work, the substitute for the chief of the Central Political Directorate declared:

"It is necessary to teach in depth every subject that is offered, and to help the students assimilate and master the information. But it is not confined solely to that. We must always remember that the instructor is a permanent educator and, as our commander in chief has said, 'an activist of our party's revolutionary policy, a defender of our ideology, our morality and our political convictions....'"

When the military parade had ended, an extensive tour was made of the various facilities of the institution, during which the students held a splendid demonstration of the various cultural and sports activities engaged in at the center.

During the tour, visits were made to the history hall, methodological offices and faculties, and to the room in which Fidel resided during his stay as a student in what was then the Belen School.

Finally, the visitors received a detailed explanation of the work being done by the different departments.

2909

CSO: 3010/916

CENTRAL, EASTERN ARMY PCC MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES NOTED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 11 Feb 82 pp 56-57

[Text] The aktiv of the Communists in the Central Army showed successful results when it was demonstrated by the members' remarks that 1981 was the starting point for the adoption of concrete measures for savings.

The enhancement of the quality of work, the stringent consumption of products and resources and the care, maintenance and control of everything held by the units insure substantial savings and productivity in the national economy during 1982.

To give examples, in this command last year 1,875 tons of fuel worth 176,000 pesos at current prices were saved, without failing to carry out a single activity specified with planned motor resources.

In the area of provisions, when the experiment had not yet become generalized in all units, the Army, by means of centralized supply and increased agricultural and livestock production, managed to save 216.5 metric tons of food, without affecting the caloric balance of the rations for the troops.

There was a 33 percent increase in the livestock, with this Army producing 65,495 metric tons of meat, of which 5,920 metric tons consisted of lamb, 0,163 of mutton, 17,120 of pork, and 1,383 and 40,900 metric tons of beef and poultry, respectively.

The aktiv took up a considerable range of subjects concerning savings, and in all of them there was included the use made by the Armed Forces of resources, from clothing and military equipment to the products relating to all the people, which the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] also receive.

"In calling for receptiveness to a consciousness about savings, and the implementation of that consciousness with practical measures that will lessen the spending done by the country, which it will have to do in its defense so long as imperialism exists, we do so persuaded that there are still potential areas which we have not managed to use properly."

The foregoing paragraph, among other aspects of special significance, was put forth at the opening of the aktiv by Col Ibrahim Alfonso Victorero, member of the party's Provincial Committee in Matanzas.

In all the remarks, there were cited the essentials for coping with all problems involved in savings, with concrete economic measures, and for properly increasing the organization of work and instruction, so as to battle against waste, misuse and improper use of resources, thus fostering even greater and measurable results in stable fashion, for the future.

At the aktiv, development plans were formulated that will afford a positive result in the performance of simultaneous activities during the instruction, with the same personnel and technical-material resources, from their departure for the field until their return to their permanent location.

During his address, one party member demonstrated that shooting well means hitting the target with fewer than the assigned bullets which, in addition to proving a strict training, is reflected concretely in savings.

Even though the accomplishments in transportation were known, one member of the PCC [Communist Party of Cuba] organizations in that special area made comments aimed at rational use of the motorized resources and proper planning of the volumes of freight to be transported, thereby contributing to a lengthening of the life of vehicles in the transportation units, for the purpose of improving the 1981 results, by eliminating the defects of premature breakage and wear in the equipment from the undertaking of extra plans.

In the realm of medical services, one PCC member in the special area cited the need for raising the health consciousness of our military, and for improving the effort for safety, protection and health of the workers. Moreover, an analysis was recommended of the use of pharmaceuticals without being prescribed, and it was noted that the medical personnel should be more strict or demanding in issuing prescriptions.

Lt Col Ivan Fernandez Maceda reported that the Streamlining and Invention Movement would double its energy and talent among the Youth Technical Brigades, in order to replace parts and attachments, and to increase savings and efficiency.

In making the concluding remarks at the aktiv, Div Gen Sixto Batista Santana stressed that, "Savings is synonymous with economic efficiency."

The chief of the Central Political Directorate stated, among other things: "Efficiency is quality in work, and what we are capable of having will be determined by what we are capable of saving, economizing on and learning in this endeavor of the party and the state."

He stressed: "Savings are not accomplished in the Army, but rather in the units, making realistic plans about what we are going to save and how to gage it." And maintained that the speeches given by the comrades contained the main ideas on what we must save in the future, in a permanent fashion.

He emphasized: "What shall we not be capable of doing, if the chiefs, the party members and the UJC [Union of Young Communists] accomplish their effort toward savings?"

He concluded by saying: "We do not want savings at the cost of upsetting readiness for combat and mobilization, nor of the living and working conditions of the personnel, but rather to seek an efficient control, maximum utilization of the resources that we have and an increment in the economical management of the FAR."

An appeal for the intensification of the effort for savings, not as a slogan, but as a reality, was made by Div Gen Sixto Batista Santana, alternate member of the party's Politburo, upon bringing to a close a PCC aktiv held by the Eastern Army, under the title "Tasks of the Chiefs, Political Agencies and Organizations of the Party to Improve Combat Readiness and Savings of Facilities and Resources of All Types."

The speaker, who is also chief of the FAR's Central Political Directorate, stated that we must not imagine the current situation to be fleeting because, as our commander in chief has noted, no one can imagine how long imperialism will last, and to what extent it will reach, in view of the sudden worsening of the political, economic and military situation that has occurred in the international arena in recent years.

He commented: "Hence, we must eliminate the old work habits which curtail the prospects and results of our efforts so much, and which do not allow us to make proper use of the opportunities that we have to consolidate what has been achieved and to progress in search of what is new."

In discussing the slander and threats of aggression from the imperialists, he said that we must constantly raise the ideological level of the troops and their combat readiness.

Div Gen Sixto Batista declared that optimal training of the reservists and high quality recruitment for SMG [General Military Service] and mobilizations are major methods for savings, noting that such personnel must make maximum use of their stay in the units and be prepared efficiently and in the shortest possible period of time, for the fatherland's defense.

He added that an impetus must be given to the development of the agricultural-livestock farms, the initiatives of the cooks in preparing food and the incentive for those who perform an exercise in an outstanding manner, without the need to use all the ammunition or other materials established in the standards.

He stressed: "Savings must be a task for everyone: the chiefs, officers, the organizations of the party, the UJC and the union locals, as well as every soldier or civilian worker, and hence it must be in the consciousness of everyone.

"With this aktiv, there must not be an end to the task discussed today, for the analyses and discussions regarding savings must continue among the rank and file, and it must be our intention to have 1982 give us the experience for coping successfully with situations such as this, or worse ones, in the coming years, if necessary."

The chief of the FAR's DIPG [General Political Directorate] pointed out that our economic agreements with the USSR are secure and favorable, something which will guarantee material provisions in several areas, but noted that we must respond to

that generosity on the part of the Soviet brothers with the savings which we have proposed in all areas.

He stressed: "We are not pessimistic, we are optimistic; we have a brave people, unafraid of sacrifice, with a lofty consciousness from which have arisen their Armed Forces, comprised of chiefs, officers, soldiers and civilian workers who are spirited, and with a party strengthened in all respects. Therefore, we expect from everyone efficient work and a raised consciousness of being more economical than ever."

The aktiv, which convened at the party's Provincial School in Santiago de Cuba, began with the reading of a main report wherein an explanation was given of the current international economic and politico-military situation, as well as of the efforts that the country is expending on savings.

The document also underscored the work being done in the FAR to increase the units' readiness for mobilization and combat, and to apply as many measures as are needed for the purpose of economizing on material and human resources insofar as possible.

Concurrently with the debate on the report by those present, the substitutes for the Army chief, sections chiefs and specialists presented interesting accounts of the problems which still exist in their respective special areas, and the measures aimed at surmounting them.

Throughout its course, the aktiv served to report on and exchange views among the participants regarding the work to be done to increase combat readiness and savings of all types.

2909

CSO: 3010/916

DAAFAR RESERVISTS TRAINING EXERCISE NOTED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 21 Jan 82 pp 29-31

[Article by Juan Valdes Figueroa, contribution of the DAAFAR newspaper SIEMPRE ALERTA]

[Text] First Lieutenant Leonel Delgado stated the following to us, while he pointed toward the comrades who were loading sacks filled with earth and were placing them on top of each other forming walls around the emplacement: "Do you see them?" And he went on to say: "They have not yet established their living conditions, and nevertheless they are concentrating all their effort on preparing the emplacements rapidly with their fortifications and concealment. They are workers who carry the spirit of soldiers within them."

The future antiaircraft artillery crew, consisting of DAAFAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces - Antiaircraft Defense] reservists, was in production. When the members of the military committee knocked on the doors of their homes, Pablo, a hospital center worker, Santiago, a railroad worker, and Pacheco, from a communal investment enterprise, were sleeping after a hard day's work. Luis was dressing to go to his place of work at night and Jesus was watching television with his family. Once more they were called to their combat posts and they hurriedly left their homes to do their duty in defense.

The ground, covered with tall dry grass and weeds in a place in Cuba, became the new habitat of the workers hardened to war, of the proletarian artillerymen. Along with preparation for battle, the personnel started to build the fortifications and to conceal their emplacement: the antiaircraft guns.

"They are workers who carry the spirit of soldiers within them," the sights that we were now witnessing seemed to tell us and this statement was repeated on hearing the accounts told us by those men, accustomed to bathing in sweat, to getting their boots smeared with mud, to getting their backs soaked under the rain carrying ammunition cases, to getting their hands blistered with the hard "iron" of the weapons, and all this for an ideal, in order to defend it even though it would cost blood or might cost their lives.

Reservist soldier Miguel Concepcion Perez was carrying a sack that he had just filled with earth with a piece of sheet metal that he used as a shovel. "American imperialism is planning to attack our countries in Latin America and Cuba, as the first bastion of socialism on the continent, has a sacred duty to the people to strengthen their defense constantly." And he went on his way with the sack of earth toward the incipient fortification.

Uninterrupted bell ringing froze all movements, but only to be followed with other movements so fast and so precise that suddenly the troop seemed to be seething in orders, racing, sounds of metal. No one wondered whether or not the "air attack" signal was real. They waited at their stations.

Our MiG was approaching to "bomb" the positions defended by the battery. It was obvious that another training exercise was involved, but the artillerymen imagined with unequalled fierceness that they had to do with the "arrogant, prepotent" enemy.

The worker-soldiers carried out their respective duties on time in close coordination. Rolando Hernandez, a scout, reported the target's status: "30-00 in bearing, 5-00 angle; range 6 kilometers." The battery commander repeated the data to the guns after this specific order: "Locate..." "Target located," the gun captains answered immediately.

The aircraft entered the battery's firing area with its deafening noise and the artillerymen heard it as if it were hurling a challenge to the four winds. The MiG made a "climb," a "dive," and a "flight close to the ground" over the guns. After each pass, the angle operator, Jesus Loinaz Hernandez, also shouted, together with others, "I see!" and kept the point of aim on the edge and lower center of the air target, spinning his crank with dizzy speed.

At the same time, an artilleryman passed the heavy projectile. Another one simulated loading the gun and the bearing operator, Santiago Rivero Ricoy, tense and nervous, relaxed by an effort of will and concentrated his sight on the target through his point of aim and expertly spun the crank accompanying it until after the order "Fire!" had been given, he decided to press the firing pedal at the right time.

This time was a training exercise. Therefore, the explosion, the resultant temporary deafness or the burned powder odor all over the body did not occur. These experienced men remember well these details from their previous combat firing exercises, but they are sure that if it had been an enemy aircraft, they would have brought it down.

"Because we have excellent marksmen among our workers," one of the comrades told us, proud of his troops. "We have some who have put out a flare in the air with a shot from a gun," he concluded smiling and sweating, in spite of the fact that the temperature was cool.

And we understood what they are expressed eloquently with their steady looks: "If the enemy were to attack, we shall press the pedal, but with a projectile really in the chamber."

2

3010/755

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN ANGOLA DESCRIBED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 21 Jan 82 pp 18-19

[Article by Marta Rosa Martinez, taken from "VERDE OLIVO" on an Internationalist Mission]

[Text] As the unforgettable Major Ernesto Che Guevara said once, "The life of any human being is worth more than all the money of the richest man in the world." In order to turn this thought into reality, hundreds of women and men, self-sacrificing Health workers, have gone 14,000 kilometers beyond their native land to go to Africa, to the People's Republic of Angola and to contribute with their modest effort to saving thousands of lives.

Bilateral collaboration in the field of health between Cuba and the RPA [People's Republic of Angola] started just after the end of the second war for liberation, when a small group went to Cabinda Province, at the end of 1975, and today already, in its sixth year of existence, it is present in 16 provinces of the country.

In the few years since its independence, Angola has made remarkable achievements in health. Medical care is offered without charge and is being extended more and more throughout the entire national territory.

Programs of maternal and child care and vaccination programs have been organized within the health plans. The fourth antipolio campaign has been carried out and other programs of struggle against the principal diseases are being shaped up and implemented.

Physicians, stomatologists, nurses, technicians and support personnel are working with real enthusiasm in the network of medical services that includes the Luanda hospital centers, provincial and municipal hospitals, health centers and stations.

How the Collaboration Program Is Being Carried Out

There have been many successful achievements in carrying out the collaboration program. Therefore, we went to Dr Seidel Sanchez, head of the Cuban Medical Mission in Angola, for him to talk to us in this connection.

"Collaboration included various aspects, like technical assistance, scholarships and training, as well as exchange of missions and information.

"On the first point, we can say that technical advisory service has already been established in 17 of the country's 18 provinces. It is carried out, basically, in five branches: training of executive personnel, hygiene and epidemiology, statistics, medications, instruments and equipment, and medical care.

"With regard to scholarships and training, the sending of scholarship-holders to Cuba was envisaged for training courses as medical technicians and other postgraduate courses for that same level.

"Concerning exchange of missions, delegations consisting of Angolan provincial directors were sent to Cuba in November and from Cuba to Angola in December 1980.

"With regard to exchange of information, our country complied by sending books, periodicals and scientific publications.

"Collaboration," Dr Sanchez told us, "is being carried out in a considerable number of specialties, because we have, among the 335 physicians that the contingent has, comrades who are serving as general physicians, surgeons, internists, obstetricians, gynecologists, orthopedists, urologists, ophthalmologists, angiologists, laboratory clinicians, maxillofacial specialists, proctologists, otolaryngologists, microbiologists, stomatologists and others.

"Independently of the performance of medical care, we also have a group of cooperation workers who, in view of their scientific level, teach second to fifth year medical students and interns in the Americo Boavida University Hospital, in Luanda.

"In addition, since 1977, the Technical Health School has had the assistance of a team collaborating in training technical and executive personnel in the specialties of pharmacy, statistics, physiotherapy, microbiology, laboratory, nursing and general obstetrics and pediatrics instructors."

The constant desire to be increasingly more useful has led the Cuban internationalists to increase medical care. An example of this consists of the comparative data on cases seen in outpatient clinics, emergency rooms and in stomatology in the first half of 1980-1981.

Within this collaboration, there is a small group of cooperation workers who, because of their self-sacrificing dedication to the task that they are performing, deserve proper mention. They are the ones who, in their daily work, have as their objective a struggle against infectious and contagious diseases, which are very abundant in the masses of people in underdeveloped countries and in some technically developed countries.

At the end of 1980, the Cuban Medical Mission in the RPA had on the hygiene and epidemiology front 32 collaborators, including two epidemiologists, eight dermatologists, four phthisiologists, four microbiologists, seven health workers, two microbiology technicians and one toxicology technician.

These comrades who are aware of the health problems of the Angolan people, are placing great concern in carrying out the task assigned to them in their awareness of the important part that they are playing.

Personal improvement by means of self-taught study and scientific research is a task not neglected by this group. For this purpose, three scientific sessions have been carried out with successful results both for Cuban collaboration and for the Angolans, because topics were examined and discussed that, because of their content and scientific precision, provide experience for better performance of health work in the RPA.

Our physicians, nurses and technicians are providing, with the same spirit of responsibility and dedication, their modest but valuable contribution to more and better successful achievement in safeguarding the health of these sister people and they feel satisfied with the fulfillment of the internationalist mission entrusted to them.

Statistical data on fulfillment of the Maternal-Infant Care Program. Comparative data for the first half of 1980-1981:

Activity	1980	1981
Pregnancy consultations	84,658	90,557
Deliveries	12,539	11,914
Puericulture consultations	20,562	18,553
Pediatric consultations	281,055	337,557
BCG vaccinations (new born)	18,190	22,584
Specialty	Cases seen 1980	Cases seen 1981
Medicine	259,294	278,668
Surgery	77,418	91,477
Pediatrics	281,055	337,557
Puericulture	20,562	18,553
Obstetrics	84,858	90,557
Gynecology	15,545	19,434
Total outpatient consultations	738,532	836,246
Emergency room	234,178	228,277
Subtotal	972,710	1,064,523
Stomatology	48,196	37,957
TOTAL	1,020,906	1,102,480

Number of cooperative workers. Comparative data for the first half of 1980-1981:

Specialty	1980	1981
Physicians	282	335
Stomatologists	13	12
Nurses	157	174
Technicians	147	157
Support	7	8

10,042
CSO: 3010/755

DOMINICA LIBERATION MOVEMENT LEADER BLASTS CHARLES

St Georges THE NEW JEWEL in English 15 Jan 82 p 6

[Text] "Eugenia has no right to talk about violation of human rights in any country because 'the right to live' in Dominica is in jeopardy," so said Dr. Bill Rivere in an interview with NEW JEWEL.

Dr. Rivere who is the political leader of the Dominica Liberation Movement (DLM) outlined how the regime in Dominica has systematically violated the rights of the workers, students, youth and other working people of Dominica, since coming into power.

It was noted that the STATE police have been sent to American military bases to be trained in the latest methods of torture and beatings. The radio station and the paper, New Cronicle, have become Eugenia's personal propaganda mouthpieces.

Rivere said since February 1981 police have shot fifteen persons, twelve being killed. Eugenia has aided abetted and protected the police for these crimes. She has gone on radio praising the police for their good works -- like the killing and shooting of youths and other persons in broad daylight. The police showed its bloody hands a few weeks ago when the unarmed Ashton Benjamin, former member of the disbanded Dominica Defence Force, was murdered in broad daylight, in the presence of hundreds of Dominicans. Is this the same Eugenia who is murdering and slaying Dominican working people and denying them of all rights, who is accusing Grenada of human rights violations. Since the December 19th attempted "take over", the regime has become more repressive, many people have been arrested without being charged.

Working people throughout the Caribbean are calling on Eugenia to look after her own house, before meddling in other country's internal affairs. Eugenia, you better take heed.

CSO: 3025/176

PCD LEADER SAYS PARTY TO OPPOSE HURTADO

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 26 Jan 82 p A-3

[Text] Guayaquil, 25 Jan 82--In answer to a newsman query concerning the recent dispute between President Osvaldo Hurtado Larrea and Vice President Leon Roldos, lawyer Aquiles Rigail Santiestevan, leader of the People, Change and Democracy party (PCD) and candidate to the post of national chairman of that political organization, said that the party convention to be held in Machala on the 29th of the current month will certainly adopt a political line opposed to the government headed by Dr Hurtado, yet it will be an opposition that is not self-seeking but dignified, an opposition that will not gainsay anything that is in conformity with ethics and morals.

After stating that the PCD had a faction led by him that sought to continue cooperating with the government in everything that benefited the country, and another faction led by Dr Enrique Gallegos that tended to oppose the government, Rigail said that this scenario has changed following the split between the two chief executives of the country, and that he was certain that the Machala convention will adopt a line of opposition to the government for reasons that are commonly known and because Leon Roldos, the vice president of the republic, is a member of that party.

However, Rigail said he did not believe that what he had just referred to could affect the democratic stability of the country, but he characterized as a paradox the fact that the part which voted for Jaime Roldos Aguilera for president of the republic--i.e., the Concentration of Popular Forces (CFP) now transformed into the PCD--does not form part of the national government, while the party of Dr Osvaldo Hurtado, which constitutes a minority, does.

Rigail ended up by insisting that the opposition will not be self-seeking, and neither will it engage in ploys that could harm the country.

The national chairman of the ruling Popular Democracy Party, Dr Julio Cesar Trujillo, described the letter sent by Vice President Leon Roldos to President Osvaldo Hurtado as vulgar, rancorous and gross, in contrast to the courteous and delicate terms of Hurtado when referring to former President Jaime Roldos Aguilera, brother of the incumbent vice president, which evince his restrained form of expression.

He added that Leon Roldos has manifested excessive susceptibility. This is not a case of ideology, but of hypersensitivity on the part of Roldos, who has misconstrued Dr Hurtado's words, which were full of fondness and sympathy for the late president.

He acknowledged, however, that the PCD opposition to the present government is going to slow down some activities of benefit to the country, but not to the extent of destabilizing democracy because the government will stay on course in accordance with the dictates of the Constitution and the laws of the republic.

8414

CSO: 3010/759

TRADE WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES BENEFITS ECONOMY

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 24 Jan 82 p A-1

[Text] Trade was practically nil when it began in 1965. It remained that way in 1965 and 1966 because the early period was devoted to the implementation of the exchange documents, the opening of commercial offices and the establishment of relations between the central banks.

But foreign trade between Ecuador and the socialist countries increased in 1968: Ecuador exported products amounting to \$20 million while its purchases still remained near zero.

The purchases of the socialist countries dropped to \$12 million in 1969, and to \$10 million in 1970. But an ascending curve started in 1971 which lasted until 1979, as follows: \$15 million in 1971, \$18 million in 1972, \$20 million in 1973, \$22 million in 1974, \$36 million in 1975, \$70 million in 1976, \$75 million in 1977, \$96 million in 1978 and \$130 million in 1979. As a result of the world economic conditions, the socialist countries' purchases from Ecuador dropped to \$95 million in 1980.

But Ecuador does not buy a commensurate amount of products from the socialist countries. Up to 1979, the year of the highest purchases from the socialist market, Ecuadorean purchases amounted to \$52 million in comparison to the \$130 million purchased by the socialist countries.

The first steps to establish the country's commercial relations with the socialists were taken in 1965 pursuant to a decree of the military junta which authorized a barter of products. The main promoter of this expansion of markets was Dr Roberto Bartus. At that time, it was also recommended from the United States that Ecuador seek new markets for its bananas, coffee and cacao in those countries.

In a report concerning the results of trade with that area in 1980, "regretably lower than in 1979," Dr Bartus registers these figures:

Ecuadorean exports to socialist countries in 1980	-- \$87,655,000
Ecuadorean imports from those markets	-- \$24,025,000
Balance in favor of Ecuador in 1980	-- \$63,630,000

This, points out Bartus, is "a very favorable reality for the national economy." Therefore, he points up the need "for the continual presence of Ecuador in such events as the International Fair of Leipzig, and for exerting ever-increasing pressure to

attain a bilateral cooperation with the countries in question that will make it possible not only to maintain the current levels, but also to increase them, in view of the fact that conditions are very favorable for this aspiration." The eight countries that are mentioned are Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, the GDR, Rumania, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

In reference to the future possibilities of Ecuadorean trade not only with socialist countries but with other countries as well, the initiator of this supplementary market points out: "If Hungary, a nation of hardly 11 million inhabitants, was able to consume \$31,750,000 worth of traditional products from Ecuador in 1979, it is obvious that the whole communist bloc of eight countries with almost 400 million inhabitants, with equal capacity for production and consumption, could become a wealthy customer and consumer of Ecuadorean products amounting to no less than \$500 million to \$600 million annually."

"Surely the question will be asked, is there a future for a bigger expansion of the traditional production of Ecuador? The answer is a resounding yes."

Dr Bartus relates the following anecdote: "At a high level conference in one of the socialist countries, I was told half-jestingly: 'You Ecuadoreans will one day be able to manufacture equal or even better industrial products. That is easy--raw material, technology and skilled hands. But we will never be able to cultivate here the bananas, coffee, cacao and other foodstuffs indispensable to our peoples. Ponder over this reality.'"

"And when making these remarks," Dr Bartus adds, "I would like to make clear once more that I am not trying to emphasize an exchange with socialist countries only, but will all countries where the food problem turns more precarious every day. For all these reasons, Ecuador has a bright future for its agricultural production and exports."

After 16 years of managing an Ecuadorean company which trades with socialist countries, either as promotion adviser or as president, Dr Bartus--a native of Czechoslovakia married to an Ecuadorean, has a family in our country and has resided in Quito for almost half a century--advises: "It is obvious that successful exportation also requires the comprehensible reciprocity of the importation of industrial products from the countries that purchase from us."

"We know that it will be possible to reach an equilibrium in the balance of trade with the socialist countries in a short time, but a more thorough understanding of this fact is necessary, favoring exportation to our country as much as possible if we wish to keep these excellent customers and the ever-increasing rate of operations." "In the same manner," he concludes, "there should be concern at the highest national level about reducing the huge and inconvenient imbalances in the exchange with countries that sell us everything, but buy nothing or hardly anything from us."

8414

CSO: 3010/759

DAILY PUBLISHED RECENT CENSUS STATISTICS

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 3 Feb 82 p A 1

[Text] The population of Ecuador is increasing rapidly: in 1981, the population reached 8,644,000 inhabitants, of which a little over half live in the rural areas; 3,805,037 people live in urban areas.

In 1981 Guayaquil passed the million mark, while Quito has 843,917 inhabitants; Cuenca, Ambato and Machala have all gone beyond the 100,000 figure.

A spectacular case of rapid growth is the city of Santo Domingo de los Colorados. The total population of its urban and rural areas is 171,923. Cities along the coast have had a marked increase in population: Milagro, Quevedo and Manta, which has more inhabitants than the provincial capital Portoviejo.

In the Amazon region, the cities and towns are growing slowly.

Although the migration of rural inhabitants to the cities, especially during recent years, has caused concern, there are still more people living in the rural areas than in the urban areas in our country. This leads to the conclusion that the task of providing certain comforts and incentives for the inhabitants of the rural areas, so that they will definitely remain there, is an urgent one.

In the coastal region the rural inhabitants generally are more numerous than those who prefer the cities. For example, in Eloy Alfaro, Esmeraldas, there are 4,430 inhabitants in the urban area but 46,616 in the rural. In Quinde there are 8,809 inhabitants in the urban area but 71,355 in the rural. In Zaruma there are 5,111 inhabitants in the urban area but 38,214 in the rural.

Similarly, in the Amazon region, in Sucumbios for example, there are only 292 inhabitants in the urban area but 5,254 in the rural; in Zamora-Chinchipec, 6,085 in the urban area but 52,120 in the rural.

To date information on the population of Ecuador is maintained at the National Office of Statistics and Census, an agency of the state which for many years has collected and organized the information and kept it up to date. From that agency we have obtained the following data which we offer to our readers indicating, canton by canton, city by city, how many live in the urban area and how many in the rural:

Population

Provinces and Cantons	1981	Provinces and Cantons	1981
Country total	8,644,000	Cañar	82.038
Urban area	3,805,037	Urban	8.032
Rural area	4,838,963	Rural	79.006
AZUAY	448.521	CARCHI	148.323
Urban	159.919	Urban	47.324
Rural	288.602	Rural	100.799
Cuenca	272.317	Tulcán	84.845
Urbana	144.641	Urban	3.592
Rural	127.676	Rural	33.253
Girón	39.788	Espejo	31.325
Urban	2.703	Urban	3.875
Rural	37.085	Rural	27.860
Gualaceo	38.850	Montúfar	52.163
Urban	5.504	Urban	12.287
Rural	33.346	Rural	39.896
Paute	36.593	COTOPAXI	282.526
Urban	2.334	Urban	41.170
Rural	34.259	Rural	241.356
Santa Isabel	34.694	Latacunga	133.407
Urban	2.413	Urban	28.835
Rural	32.281	Rural	105.072
Stagsig	26.299	Pangua	20.855
Urban	2.324	Urban	1.648
Rural	23.975	Rural	18.607
BOLIVAR	168.915	Pujili	7.166
Urban	22.261	Urban	4.026
Rural	146.654	Rural	71.140
Guaranda	82.658	Salcedo	41.948
Urban	13.592	Urban	4.878
Rural	69.066	Rural	37.072
Chimbo	30.876	Saquisilí	11.481
Urban	3.406	Urban	2.898
Rural	27.470	Rural	8.565
San Miguel	30.614	CHIMBORAZO	357.804
Urban	3.288	Urban	94.380
Rural	27.326	Rural	263.424
Chillanes	24.767	Riobamba	147.339
Urbana	1.376	Urban	72.781
Rural	22.762	Rural	74.558
CAÑAR	181.618	Alausí	62.318
Urbana	23.713	Urban	8.093
Rural	157.802	Rural	54.223
Azogues	73.199	Colta	59.625
Urban	13.239	Urban	2.587
Rural	59.960	Rural	57.058
Biblian	21.278	Chunchi	18.107
Urban	2.442	Urban	3.174
Rural	18.836	Rural	12.933
		Guamote	25.319
		Urbana	1.853
		Rural	23.466

Provinces and Cantons	1981	Provinces and Cantons	1981	Provinces and Cantons	1981
Guano	47.088	Cayambe	42.366	Urban	29.272
Urban	5.912	Urbana	13.101	Rural	23.345
Rural	41.186	Rural	29.285	Piñas	36.441
IMBABURA	285.053	Meila	39.836	Urban	7.618
Urban	90.918	Urban	5.719	Rural	28.823
Rural	174.135	Rural	33.917	Santa Rosa	47.031
Ibarra	138.898	Pedro Moncayo	14.789	Urban	27.758
Urban	58.307	Urbana	1.940	Rural	19.273
Rural	80.589	Rural	12.849	Zaruma	43.325
Antonio Ante	26.751	Quito	1'087.726	Urban	5.111
Urban	12.113	Urban	843.917	Rural	38.214
Rural	14.638	Rural	243.809		
Cotacachi	33.187	Rumiñahui	30.703	ESMERALDAS	290.111
Urban	5.171	Urban	15.778	Urban	110.334
Rural	28.016	Rural	14.927	Rural	179.777
Otavalo	68.219	Santo Domingo	171.923	Eloy Alfaro	51.096
Urban	17.327	Urban	55.459	Urban	4.480
Rural	50.892	Rural	116.464	Rural	46.616
LOJA	419.426			Esmeraldas	138.914
Urban	97.257	TUNGURAHUA	336.684	Urbana	92.260
Rural	322.169	Urban	123.518	Rural	46.664
Calvas	40.239	Rural	213.166	Muisne	19.837
Urban	7.953	Ambato	225.894	Urbana	4.695
Rural	32.286	Urban	103.821	Rural	15.142
Celica	32.116	Rural	121.873	Quininde	80.264
Urban	3.896	Baños	14.992	Urban	8.809
Rural	28.222	Urbana	7.160	Rural	71.355
Gonzanamé	32.733	Rural	7.832		
Urban	1.702	Pelileo	41.790	GUAYAS	2'124.145
Rural	31.031	Urban	4.852	Urban	1'367.905
Loja	144.033	Rural	36.938	Rural	756.240
Urban	63.043	Píllaro	27.831	Balzar	85.240
Rural	80.990	Urban	5.133	Urban	16.748
Macará	32.107	Rural	22.668	Rural	48.492
Urban	10.396	Patate	10.266	Daule	148.869
Rural	21.711	Urban	1.483	Urban	19.031
Paltas	58.431	Rural	8.783	Rural	129.838
Urban	3.934	Quero	18.111	El Empalme	84.530
Rural	55.497	Urban	1.069	Urban	20.355
Puyango	28.736	Rural	15.042	Rural	64.175
Urban	2.067			Guayaquil	1'280.409
Rural	26.669	EL ORO	374.350	Urban	1'189.114
Saraguro	28.491	Urban	195.966	Rural	111.295
Urbana	1.889	Rural	178.384	Milagro	114.225
Rural	26.602	Arenillas	43.760	Urban	81.265
Espeñola	21.538	Urban	11.887	Rural	32.960
Urban	1.477	Rural	31.873	Naranjal	44.100
Rural	20.061	Machala	151.176	Urban	7.260
PICHINCHA	1'387.163	Urban	114.320	Rural	36.840
Urban	935.912	Rural	36.858	Naranjito	16.968
Rural	151.251	Pasaje	52.617	Urban	7.224
				Rural	9.744

Provinces and Cantons	1981	Provinces and Cantons	1981	Provinces and Cantons	1981
Salinas	72.760	Ipijapa	88.937	Rural	10.575
Urban	19.668	Urban	26.500	Santiago	9.030
Rural	53.112	Rural	62.437	Urban	1.855
Samborondón	33.939	Junín	20.305	Rural	7.375
Urban	5.807	Urban	2.653		
Rural	28.132	Rural	17.652	NAPO	97.475
Santa Elena	88.707	Manta	99.315	Urban	6.758
Urban	11.194	Urban	93.687	Rural	90.719
Rural	77.513	Rural	5.328	Aguarico	4.611
Urbina Jado	45.587	Montecristi	32.054	Urban	314
Urban	5.847	Urban	8.420	Rural	4.297
Rural	39.720	Rural	23.634	Tena	46.125
Yaguachi	128.811	Paíán	58.139	Urban	3.339
Urban	4.392	Urban	3.467	Rural	42.786
Rural	124.419	Rural	54.672	Orellana	15.791
		Protonviejo	102.978	Urban	1.922
LOS RIOS	538.406	Urban	88.990	Rural	13.869
Urban	149.854	Rural	73.988	Putumayo	14.387
Rural	388.552	Rocafuerte	54.831	Urban	488
Baba	30.035	Urban	6.630	Rural	13.899
Urban	1.189	Rural	48.201	Quijos	11.015
Rural	28.866	Santa Ana	74.339	Urban	401
Babahoyo	120.404	Urban	5.691	Rural	10.614
Urban	39.395	Rural	68.648	Sucumbios	5.546
Rural	81.009	Sucre	117.035	Urban	292
Puebloviejo	20.805	Urban	12.857	Rural	5.254
Urban	4.408	Rural	104.178		
Rural	16.397	24 de Mayo	56.848	PASTAZA	27.318
Quevedo	198.824	Urban	3.292	Urban	8.501
Urban	72.904	Rural	53.356	Rural	18.817
Rural	125.830	El Carmen	71.180	Mera	4.439
Urdaneta	27.003	Urban	11.868	Urban	1.000
Urban	3.143	Rural	59.291	Rural	3.439
Rural	23.860			Pastaza	22.879
Ventanas	69.475	MORONA SANTIAGO	73.772	Urban	7.501
Urban	15.818	Urban	15.086	Rural	15.378
Rural	53.657	Rural	58.676		
Vinces	71.860	Gualaquiza	11.626	ZAMORA CHINCHIPE	58.205
Urban	12.927	Urban	2.661	Urban	6.085
Rural	58.933	Rural	8.965	Rural	52.120
		Limón Indanza	13.736	Chinchiipe	12.852
MANABI	1'058.480	Urban	2.638	Urban	1.434
Urban	307.968	Rural	10.698	Rural	11.418
Rural	750.492	Morona	20.098	Yacuambi	3.905
Bolívar	66.980	Urban	3.086	Urban	422
Urban	9.487	Rural	17.030	Rural	3.483
Rural	57.473	Palora	5.872	Zamora	41.448
Chone	155.756	Urban	2.039	Urban	4.229
Urban	34.125	Rural	3.833	Rural	37.219
Rural	121.634	Sucua	13.412		
		Urban	2.817	GALAPAGOS	5.828

9204

CSO: 3010/834

MASS TRANSIT INADEQUATE IN LARGE CITIES

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 21 Jan 82 p A-5

[Editorial: "Mass Transit"]

[Text] The present urban transportation system based on motor vehicles has turned out to be neither practical nor economical where large cities are concerned. And that is, precisely, the case in Quito and Guayaquil. The system is not practical because its qualitative and quantitative deficiencies are considerable; it is not economical.

For certain, the current problems tend to worsen inexorably. It is not only that the cost of the petroleum derivatives consumed increases daily, but also that the automotive equipment of Quito and of Guayaquil exceed the capabilities of the cities, a problem that is much more apparent in the capital because of its unusual topographical configuration.

If the number of motor vehicles cannot continue to increase unrestrictedly despite the fact that the need for transportation does not stop growing, it is obvious that it is necessary to resort to another system. Furthermore, Ecuador cannot afford to burn its petroleum in an unsystematic domestic consumption whose subsidization costs the state a lot and more and more every year.

Any proposed alternative system of mass transit must be based on a source of energy other than petroleum. On that score, we must keep in mind that the electrification of the country is progressing rapidly with the implementation of the large hydroelectric projects, hence the adoption of an electric powered system of transportation appears to be the best option.

However, it is obvious that the construction of a monorail or of a subway system in Quito or Guayaquil would require investments beyond the very limited financial resources of the country. But it is also necessary to consider that the expenditure of fuels is currently very large, to the extent that it hinders any effective implementation of the guidelines related to the restricted and rationalized use of petroleum.

The change in the urban transportation system is inevitable and, therefore, it is fitting that with foreknowledge of the case, the matter be studied thoroughly and solutions be planned. Of course, no solution will be easy, fast and inexpensive.

In any event, considerable investments will be required whose financing should be preferably determined in advance, before reaching the critical moment--already looming--when there is not other recourse but to adopt emergency measures.

COARD STRESSES ROLE OF PRIVATE SECTOR IN AIDING ECONOMY

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 5 Feb 82 p 2

[Article by Vivian Philbert]

[Text]

THE private sector, meeting this week with Finance Minister Bernard Coard on formulation of the budget, reiterated its call for more regular meetings with the PRG and for a forum for ongoing dialogue.

The meeting was attended by some 20 people, from the Hotel Association, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Employers Federation.

C-of-C president David Minors said the private sector has "always been working in the dark" and been calling for regular meetings with the government.

The meeting agreed on a series of meetings between the private sector and Bro Coard in the coming months, to discuss development of tourism, agriculture, light industry, last year's economic performance, this year's prospects and the possibilities of jointly develop-

ing other sectors of the economy.

Bro Coard pointed out that the private sector's role this year is vital, especially when the first phase of the international airport is completed, in building hotels, facilities for the airport, and zoning the south of the island which will be the heart of the tourist belt.

Listed for future discussions are the proposal that the PRG should subsidise local food production rather than imported rice and sugar, tax rebates to encourage private sector employment, price controls, price mark-ups, and duty-free shopping.

Bro Coard asked the private sector to consider as foreign exchange savings, bulk importation of commodities, and the import limitation of a number of motor vehicle models.

He also suggested that the private sector contact the Grenada Development Bank which, he said, has had difficulty in finding suitable projects for the money it has.

Outlining that the economy is performing creditably, Bro Coard said it would be some time before the impact of the huge sums being poured into the infrastructure is felt. He, however, emphasised that care must be exercised to eliminate waste and corruption.

Minors complemented the PRG on its efforts to involve Grenadians in the democratic process and said the meeting indicates that the private sector will be taken into the development and planning process of trade and industry.

Meanwhile, reporting to the plenary session of the national conference on the economy last week Friday, the

delegates proposed that stricter rules be implemented in the civil service to eradicate waste, corruption, and inefficiency and thus save more funds to put into other programmes.

They also proposed that instead of Government paying by time for certain jobs, payment should be made according to tasks. Some workers waste a lot of time on certain jobs when they know they will be paid according to time; if Government pays by task, the delegates reported, a lot of money will be saved.

On damage to public property, the delegates said that when this damage is found to be the fault of the worker, cost should be deducted from his salary.

In the coming weeks the budget will be discussed at zone and parish council meetings where the participants will again break up into workshops to discuss and debate the budget.

FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH GROUP FROM U.S.

St Georges THE NEW JEWEL in English 8 Jan 82 p 9

[Text]

The Grenada Committee for Friendship with the peoples and the U.S- Grenada Society for Friendship and Cultural relations late last year signed an agreement of co-operation and cultural exchange.

This agreement covers exchange visits and the promotion and holding of historic national days by both parties. It also covers the holding of seminars, conferences and declares the Caribbean as "a zone of peace."

It is historical and significant. This is the first time in the history of both countries that such an agreement was made. The main purpose being to foster better understanding and cooperation between the Governments and peoples of both countries.

This agreement comes at a significant juncture in the history of the Caribbean.

The United States Government has, since the Grenada Revolution of March 13th, been showing hostility to our island. Attempts to promote a better understanding through discussion and frank exchange have been frustrated by the White House. Washington still harbours the deposed and corrupt ocean man Eric Gairy. It still entertains plans to invade our country, the recent manoeuvres "Amber and the Amberines and "Red X 183" is proof of their plans. Not forgetting that right now mercenaries continue to train in Miami to invade the free and revolution caribbean countries of Grenada, Cuba and Nicaragua. Recently, Alexander Haig at the O.A.S. meeting in St. Lucia, again uttered threats of military invasion of the three

countries.

Owing to these failures, the people had to become involved. The people have to talk and apply pressure on their congressmen in the U.S. to make Reagan cease his "hawkish and cold-war attitudes".

The people have now taken the future and destinies of both countries into their hands. JEWEL welcomes the signing of the agreement and hope, it will bring the peoples of the U.S.A and Grenada closer together.

CSO: 3025/176

TRAINING IN CUBA, USSR HELPS SPUR CO-OP DEVELOPMENT

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 5 Feb 82 p 3

[Text] Three fishing co-operatives, assisted by the National Co-operative Development Agency (NACDA), will this month officially launch separate new enterprises.

Next week Sunday, the two-year-old St. Patrick's Fishing Co-operative Society Ltd. will open a new fishing depot in Sauteurs that will sell fish to the people and gasoline to fishermen in the area.

This co-op, with some 35 members, has been registered with NACDA, from which they have received training and a \$67,000 loan that was used for purchasing refrigerating facilities and renovation.

The following Sunday, two fishing co-ops in Gouyave, will launch their modern fishing boats, which are expected to catch about 2,000 lbs of fish per week. NACDA provided financial and technical assistance towards the boats' construction.

Members of the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) will speak on both occasions.

According to NACDA's registrar, Bob Gordon, a visiting Cuban team, whose leader has plenty experience in co-operative development, is soon to submit a report, following tours of various co-operatives throughout the country.

Bro Gordon said an agricultural scientist is included in the team, which, during its visit to the co-ops, analysed their problems and made recommendations. It has also offered assistance in agronomy, planting techniques and irrigation. The team also visited state farms.

In an effort to stimulate co-operative development in various communities NACDA hosted a three-day crash course last week for nine members of the National Women's Organisation (NWO).

Similarly, it recently conducted a compulsory training session for six members of a co-operating co-op from Waltham, St. Mark's, as a pre-condition for formal registration.

Bro Gordon disclosed that two NACDA field officers and three members of the National Youth Organisation (NYO), are due back soon from the Soviet Union, where they did a nine-month course in advanced co-op principles. The NYO members will be employed with NACDA when they return.

At the same time, he revealed that one co-op, the United Workers' Co-op Society from Pearl's, St. Andrew's, has recently made a record sale of 17,000 eggplants to the United Kingdom.

CSO: 3025/176

HOLIDAY INN OF CANADA BUILDING INVESTMENT TO AID TOURISM

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 5 Feb 82 p 2

[Text]

HOLIDAY Inn, the Canadian-owned transnational company, is about to invest \$5 million in the reconstruction of its Grand Anse hotel, devastated by fire late last year.

The plans were announced last week Friday by Finance Minister Bernard Coard, in his marathon presentation on the economy before 1,000 delegates at the Dome in Grand Anse, a stone's throw away from the Holiday Inn.

The news was greeted by a thunderous applause of approval by the delegates.

The 186-bed Holiday Inn is by far the largest hotel in the country and has the highest occupancy rate. It employed up to 165 people, all of whom became jobless after the fire, which wrecked 50 per cent of the country's first-class tourist rooms. However, some workers found temporary employment in other sectors.

Work on reconstructing the hotel, according

to manager Bob Vandoorne, is expected to begin in the next two weeks and be completed by October 15.

The tourism industry, a significant earner of foreign exchange, did not perform well last year, according to Bro Coard, who outlined some of the problems. "The Western markets which supply our tourists, are experiencing serious economic problems so that many of the potential tourists cannot afford to come."

The continuous, unprincipled and blatant propaganda campaign waged against Grenada has had a negative effect on tourists coming here, he said. The fares between North America and Europe are cheaper than the fares from both North America to Grenada, and from Europe to Grenada and, as a result, tourists prefer to travel between North America and Europe.

Also, the problem and expense of overnighting in Barbados cause many tourists to spend their

entire vacation in Barbados, rather than coming here.

These problems compounded with others led to a decline in stop-over visitors of about 15 per cent, although total expenditure per visitor in 1981 increased by 11 per cent.

CSO: 3025/176

COCOA INDUSTRY IN WORST CONDITION SINCE MID-1970's

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 4 Feb 82 p 13

[Text]

ST GEORGES:

THE cocoa industry in Grenada is going through one of its worst periods since the mid-1970s, according to the Grenada Cocoa Association (GCA).

The GCA said in a release here that the precarious situation in the industry was adversely affecting the income of Grenadians, particularly farmers and their families whose livelihood depends on the industry.

Some of the problems faced by cocoa are related to the economic recession in the major western industrialised countries to whom Grenada has traditionally sold most of its goods.

"The reduced demand for cocoa generally has meant, more specifically, a drop in demand for Grenada's high quality, fine-flavoured cocoa, which is used in producing the more expensive brands of chocolate."

The release further noted that because of the reduce demand for cocoa on the world market, manufacturers were no longer willing to pay high prices for cocoa as they faced difficulties in selling the

chocolate.

According to the release, the price for the commodity fell from \$4.52 per pound in 1979-80 to \$3.24 per pound in 1981-82.

It added that at the same time as the price for cocoa dropped, the cost of inputs in the industry, such as fertilisers had risen because of high interest rates brought on by the recession.

In an effort to help improve the standard of living of farmers, the association, with assistance from the Grenada government, would be examining the possibility of selling cocoa to new markets and at more favourable prices.

Other measures agreed

upon by the GCA to help improve the industry include a search for technical assistance from international organisations and governments, as well as to improve on the quality of assistance given to farmers to increase productivity, and to obtain supplies of chemicals and fertilisers from alternative sources at more favourable prices.

The release noted that at present, the yield of Grenada's cocoa trees is one of the lowest in the world and said this was partly due to inter-cropping and low-yielding trees.

The cocoa industry in Grenada is expected to receive a major boost this year with the coming on-stream of a \$20.5 million cocoa rehabilitation project to be financed jointly by the Grenada government and Canada.

Under the scheme, some 10,000 acres of land would be put into production, aimed at increasing farm income and employment in Grenada, as well as to generate more foreign exchange earnings for the country.

BRIEFS

RICE PRICES-- (Cana)--The Guyanese Government has given rice growers a price increase, raised the cost to consumers, and is planning a further increase for Caribbean Community (Caricom) importers. Government announced a 20 per cent rise in the price it pays farmers for paddy and rice, and slightly higher increase for rice retailed to local consumers. State-run Guyana Rice board will now pay \$33 for an 180-pound bag of high-quality paddy, and \$80 for similar processed rice, while the retail price of non-packaged white rice, the staple diet here, will go from 36 cents to 48 cents a pound. The board said the price increases to farmers would ensure them a reasonable income from rice production, and were expected to provide a strong stimulus to local production. The board is also seeking an increase in the price of rice exported to Caricom and other countries. [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 5 Feb 82 p 5]

CSO: 3025/179

STATION SAYS U.S. DISTRUSTS SUAZO GOVERNMENT

PA222019 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Why has the U.S. Government granted only 50 million lempiras to Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova's constitutional government? Learn why the U.S. Government distrusts the new Honduran Government. Our press department has obtained confidential details on the reasons for the U.S. Government's decision.

An official of a well-known international financial organization headquartered in Washington told one of our correspondents last Saturday in Guatemala City that Washington is very distrustful of our new government's performance.

When our correspondent asked why the Washington officials distrusted the new Honduran Government, our informant answered that it was partly due to Dr Suazo Cordova's delay in organizing his cabinet. The international official added that it had even been said in Washington that the new Honduran ruler had improvised his team of collaborators, to the point that he even called several of his would-be ministers 1 day before taking office.

Although our source, who is a supervisor of international financial organizations, refused to make an official statement, our correspondent asked him whether this decision to grant our government so little financial aid would be temporary, until the government could prove its ability. The source answered that the general opinion in Washington is that the new Honduran president's cabinet was not organized as expected.

The international official confided to our correspondent, who was covering an event related to the approaching Guatemalan elections, that two Honduran Government officials are particularly unsatisfactory. These are the finance and public credit minister and the Central Bank director.

Although our source refused to make an official statement, the details disclosed are sufficiently significant to explain the inadequate financial aid granted by the U.S. Government to Honduras' new institutional regime.

From the brief information provided by our valuable source, we can conclude that:

1. Washington distrusts President Suazo Cordova's decision to organize his cabinet at the last minute.

2. Washington is aware that Suazo Cordova did not include truly efficient men in his team.

3. Washington does not assign any credibility to either the new finance and public credit minister or the Central Bank director.

Without trying to engage in speculation, it would seem that the Washington officials regard the directors of the country's fiscal and monetary policy--that is, the finance minister and the Central Bank director--as very important.

Every Honduran knows that the United States has been very fussy lately about granting economic aid to these countries, because of their problems. The United States is apprehensive over the aid it gives and wants to be sure that the success of the project for which any loan is granted is completely guaranteed.

We support the Honduran thesis that this government should receive the unanimous support of all national sectors because it is an institutional regime elected by the people. Nonetheless, developments such as this, which we have briefly reported on today due to the confidential nature of our source, cannot go unnoticed by the Honduran people.

From now on, we will have to tighten our belts. Our American allies and protectors do not trust the new team of men ruling us and this is why the aid granted us has been so small. Our economic analysts are already saying that \$25 million will not be enough for this government to set its administration in motion. The way things stand, all that remains to be said is: May God help us.

CSO: 3010/934

BRIEFS

ARMY PLAN AGAINST STRUGGLES--The Honduran People's Revolutionary Union [URP] has accused the Honduran Army and the Salvadoran regime of preparing joint military plans against the Nicaraguan and Salvadoran peoples. The URP, an opposition group, also repudiated the so-called Central American Democratic Community [CDC], describing it as a tool of the aggressive U.S. policy aimed at destroying the Nicaraguan revolutionary process and smothering the Salvadoran people's struggle for independence. The organization added that the CDC is also aimed at putting a stop to the revolutionary movement in Costa Rica and Honduras. [Excerpt] [PA231935 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Feb 82]

CSO 3010/934

COLUMNIST RAPS U.S., JAMAICA ON CENTRAL AMERICA POLICY

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Feb 82 p 6

[Article by Franklin A. McKnight]

[Text]

"YES, THE BITTERNESS OF THE TIMES WILL GROW STILL GREATER; YES THE TYRANT PEOPLE WILL GO ON PRACTISING TYRANNY."

— Faiz Ahmed Faiz

"The decisive battle for Central America is underway in El Salvador" and should the guerrilla forces of the left become the victors and El Salvador become "another Cuba", U.S. interests would have been set back and Central America would become a sea of Communism and THEN, "How long will the Panama Canal and the sea lanes be safe?" All of this reheated argument has come this week from Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State in the Reagan Administration, in his attempt to justify to the U.S. Senate increased military aid to the ruling Civilian-Military Junta led by Napoleon Duarte in the luckless country of El Salvador.

Men of power

Twenty years ago Rear Admiral Harold Briggs was shouting "We are going to lose Latin America" as part of the hysteria to generate more aid for oppressive right wing governments and fringe groups (which espoused anti-communism) as a means of holding back Soviet expansionism, through its Cuban proxy, in the region. If that was not done the communists would be shortly swarming, not just over Central America, but over people's back fences in Texas and California, the argument went. Time has, of course, magnified the absurdity of such sentiments but has not put them to sleep, though sad and costly in lives they have been

Such thinking continues to attach itself to men of power in the State Department and in the Pentagon. Men of power who, had they taken an open-minded look at the region, had they not made policies impermeable to an understanding of the dynamic social and economic conditions in the area and learnt from history, could halt the blood-shed and give the people of El Salvador and indeed the region, an opportunity to establish a society based on justice and self-determination. But the U.S. government can be accused of hardly believing in self-determination.

Ten years ago Henry Kissinger, allowing himself some frankness, was to say "I don't see why we need to stand by and permit a country to go communist due to the irresponsibility of its own people." The present Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, testifying before the U.S. Foreign Relations Committee has pointed out that the U.S. Government will do anything in its power to prevent victory by the Soviet-supported left, and did not rule out the possibility of the use of U.S. combat troops in El Salvador — "irresponsibility" will not have its way.

Military aid

The U.S. is already showing its renewed intentions to aid the junta by rushing fifty-five million dollars worth of military aid to El Salvador to shore up the military power of the Junta after a successful guerrilla raid on the chief air force base a few days ago in El Salvador. Mr. Haig believes the junta needs strength if the elections scheduled for next month are to take place. One human rights group after the other and investigative teams, as well as people

coming out of El Salvador, have been trying to break through to the government in Washington that it should wipe its hands of the elections for they will do no more than legitimize the killings of the present rulers and assure further oppression against a people who gave it no authority. It can be predicted that the elections will not stop the brutality.

Elections which are representative cannot be conducted in the present climate of crippling violence, abuses of human rights and a voters list based on a rigged list of 1977 which returned Romero to power. Moreover, the Democratic Revolutionary Front (F.D.R.) which groups various leftist guerrilla organizations and other Salvadoreans opposed to the Duarte government is boycotting the elections and has stepped up its brutalities to drive home its objections to the elections. But the U.S. government knowing as always what is good for these people, is committed to the holding of the elections.

At least the U.S. position is known but

what about that of Jamaica, a country which has often taken the sensible lead on hemispheric and regional matters, and which now has a government which insisted on due processes for legitimate government to be established in Jamaica. Must we expect this government to recognize a Salvadorean government come to power by the farce called an election, underwritten by the U.S. and set to be staged in El Salvador in March?

And in any case, how much longer can the government of this country and the voices for justice pretend ignorance about the thirty thousand persons who have been killed in less than thirty months of the Duarte reign? How many more Salvadoreans must be killed, how many more must have their human rights trampled by military boots, how many more must flee into disgusting refugee status, how long must the screams of the Salvadorean people for self-determination pierce our consciences before our government makes a statement?

BAUXITE INSTITUTE REPORTS DECLINE IN PRODUCTION FOR 1981

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 3 Feb 82 p 3

[Text] —KINGSTON, Jamaica, Tuesday. (CANA) —

Jamaica's bauxite production last year declined by 3.1 per cent to 11.6 million tonnes compared with the 1980 production of 11.9 million tonnes, the Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI) said.

The local industry was hit by a softening of the world aluminium market that caused the multinational corporations operating here to reduce production during the year.

The JBI reported that despite the production cutbacks, alumina exports increased by 6.5 per cent from 2.3 million tonnes in 1980 to last year's 2.5 million tonnes.

However, bauxite exports fell sharply, by 12.6 per cent from six million tonnes in 1980 to 5.2 million tonnes, the institute said.

Both the ore suppliers, Kaiser and Reynolds, recorded declines, the JBI said. But it gave no figures.

It said that increased alumina shipments went to Canada where smelters have operated at a higher rate than in the United States and

Britain.

Said the JBI in a summary of the performance: "After a promising start in the first quarter of 1981, output sagged in mid-year and fell well behind the last quarter as contracting demand tightened its grips on the world aluminium industry."

"Inventories of primary aluminium had topped five million tonnes at the end of November as compared with three million tonnes a year before in the world market economies."

The market economies produce and consume about four-fifth of the world's aluminium.

Analysts, the institute said, reckoned that producer-held inventories in the United States now represented six month supply.

It added: "This is nevertheless, a healthier situation than the previous aluminium industry recession in 1975 when stocks built up so high it took nearly two years to work off the supply overhang."

"This time, merchants and customers are holding down their inventories and

producers, after initial reluctance, are now cutting back output savagely."

Up to last month, in Canada, where there is the cheapest power supply, smelters were operating at 86 per cent of their 1.1 million tonne capacity, while in the U.S., where the capacity is five million tonnes, production was over 69.5 per cent of capacity, with more smelters closures expected.

Merchant prices in some instances have fallen to as much as a third below of the 76 cents U.S. a pound listed by producers for basic ingot.

Jamaica's bauxite production levy, from which the country earned US\$209 million in 1980 is linked to the average realised price of ingot by the four major producers — Alcoa, Alcan, Kaiser and Reynolds.

The realised price (as distinct from the listed price) which averaged as high as 77 cents (U.S.) a pound in the first half, the JBI pointed out, plunged in the last quarter, to yield an average for the full year of about 74 cents (U.S.) a pound.

CSO: 3025/177

BRIEFS

BANANA MARKET SEARCH--The Ministry of Agriculture is seeking a market in the United States and Canada for second-grade bananas which cannot be exported to the United Kingdom. This was disclosed by the Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Dr. Percival Broderick, on Wednesday when he launched "Farmers Month" at Morgan's Pass, Clarendon. Dr. Broderick said he had given instructions for a search of other markets to which rejected second-grade bananas could be exported. This would solve the problems of those farmers who had large amounts of their fruit rejected from export to the United Kingdom. The "myth" that the banana could be used up in agro-industry had existed for some time but the viability of such a project has not been proven, he said. In the meantime, farmers must get a better level of assistance in order to grow good fruits for the export market. A plan must be worked out to show how the banana industry could be made viable within a given time frame. Government must make some distinction between farmers who produced first-grade bananas for export and those whose fruits were second-grade and often rejected. While the Banana Company of Jamaica wooed over \$100-million, production on its banana-growing project was dismal, Dr. Broderick said. Less than 1.7 tons of bananas was produced on each acre of the project. **SPEAKING ON THE THEME** of "Farmers Month", Dr. Broderick charged the Jamaica Agricultural Society to become the mouthpiece of the small farmers. He said Government's assistance to the J.A.S. must be used to aid the small farmers in the country. The J.A.S., he said, needed to become more involved in the education of the small farmers. To this end, the Ministry of Agriculture was soon to provide more skilled personnel to work in establishing more J.A.S. branches islandwide as well as to assist in field work. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 5 Feb 82 p 1]

PORTFOLIO SHIFT--Responsibility for the National Water Commission and the Underground Water Authority has been transferred from the Ministry of Local Government to the Ministry of Public Utilities and Transport, as from today. Prime Minister Edward Seaga, who announced this, said the transfer was desirable in view of the fact that the Water Commission faced problems that were similar to those of the other utilities which fall within the portfolio of the Minister of Public Utilities. "These have had a history of maintenance, management and industrial relations problems which have contributed to recurrent crises and inefficient delivery of services to the consumer. Management and operations audits are now being conducted by the Jamaica National Investment Corporation on the Jamaica Public Service Company and the National Water Commission," an official news release said. "The transfer of responsibility for the National Water Commission to the Ministry of Public Utilities will enable that Ministry to co-ordinate the review which is

now underway, as well as the strategies for restructuring, which will be undertaken when the reports are submitted." On February 1, the Prime Minister asked the Water Commission to submit to him, within two weeks, a report on all the water systems in the island indicating where problems existed and what would be needed to bring the systems to full efficiency. Commenting on the change of Minister of Public Utilities the GLEANER suggested, in an editorial last Monday, that the subject of water should be transferred to this Ministry. [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Feb 82 p 1]

IMPORT RELAXATION--Sixty-four items, ranging from cutlery to fertiliser, are being removed from the list of restricted imports, "in keeping with the Government's continuing review of import licensing policy". This was announced by the Minister of Industry and Commerce, the Hon. Douglas Vaz, in a news release from the Ministry which bore Friday's date but which reached the GLEANER on Saturday afternoon. However, the GLEANER had already published, on Saturday, the Government's decision to liberalise imports which was communicated by the Minister to the manufacturing sector at a meeting on Thursday. Textiles, cement, computers, artificial fruits and flowers, record racks, spice racks, crown corks, lighting fixtures, desk calculators, locks, door latches and pulls, hinges, water treatment chemicals, windows and doors are among the items being "freed." Food items include grapenut, tea, cereals, popcorn, ice cream, infant food, as well as cheese boards and meat boards. Also on the list are cocktail stirrers, pot-holders, and such miscellaneous items as hair-curlers, C.B. radios, door-stops, pipe fittings, feathers, elastic, first-aid kits, carpet-cleaner. A list of the items was attached to the Ministry release setting out the tariff classifications and import duties on each item. It was stated that some of these items already attract an additional stamp Duty of 10% ad valorem [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Feb 82 p 1]

JBC APPOINTMENTS--Mr. Constantine Walters, has been appointed Director of News and Mr. Robert Ghisays Director of Television, at the Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation. Both appointments become effective today. Mr. Walters joined the J.B.C. as a News Editor in 1961. In 1964, he was promoted to Assistant Chief Editor and in 1969, to Chief Editor Parliament and Politics. He was appointed Manager of News in 1971 and Head of News in 1974. Since January 1981, he has held the position of Acting Director of News. Mr. Ghisays has worked in Rome with Reuters News Agency and was involved in film, television and theatre as a staff correspondent. He has worked for the J.B.C. as a freelance producer/director and contributed to the production of the television programmes "Round About", "Saturday Night Sit In" and "Here and Now". [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Feb 82 p 2]

INFORMATION SERVICE CHANGES--The Jamaica Information Service is being re-organized with its rural offices being re-activated to operate as an intelligence network for rural development. According to a JIS release, the re-organization was announced by the Minister of State for Information, the Hon. Mike Henry, in an address to the Board of Management of the Ministry of Agriculture on Tuesday last. The Minister was holding a meeting with officers of the Ministry of Agriculture to discuss a communications campaign for agriculture and rural development. This was the first in a series of meetings to examine communications strategies for agriculture. Mr. Henry said that the film unit of JIS would be re-assigned to areas of rural development while the publication section would concentrate on information for target groups in rural areas. JIS Radio Department will also be undertaking a

wider out-of-studio coverage of agriculture. Serials will be utilized to disseminate agricultural information, Mr. Henry said. Regional radio stations, Radio Central and Radio North-East, as well as the agricultural page of the "NEW DAILY NEWS" will be used up as additional outlets by the Ministry of Agriculture.
[Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Feb 82 p 2]

CSO: 3025/177

OFFICIAL CALLS FOR NATIONALIZATION OF FOOD INDUSTRY

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 2 Feb 82 pp 1-A, 15-A

[Report of interview with coordinator of the Agricultural-Industrial Development of SARH by Bertha Becerra: "Let's Nationalize the Food Industry: SARH"]

[Text] In view of the reality that in Mexico foreign investment controls 31 percent of the total production of fruit and vegetable preserves, 33 percent of sauces and soups, 25 percent of biscuits and dough, 93 percent of instant coffee, 70 percent of flour made from cereals and vegetables, 97 percent of industrialized milk and 100 percent of children's foods, the food industry must be nationalized.

Nationalizing the food industry, above all that of essential foods, does not mean having state control of a service in a productive and bureaucratic system remaining foreign in operation, but involves recovering and strengthening the real and efficient presence of the public, social and private sectors of one of the key activities of national development.

In an interview with EL SOL DE MEXICO, the general coordinator of agricultural-industrial development for the SARH [Secretariat of Agriculture and Water Resources], Rodolfo Echeverria Zuno, also said:

We are not trying to plot against any economic agent in particular, but to satisfy the collective needs that require new forms and adjustments between society and the economy.

The transnationalization that our economy is suffering can only be changed starting from an effective nationalization, which has nothing to do with state control, he specified.

In this regard, Echeverria said that foreign investment, by dominating the main branches of the food industry and in general almost the whole economy--except for energy--controls the modernized sectors of the country.

According to figures from the U.S. Department of Commerce, the sales of transnational companies in Mexico during 1974 were about \$6.058 billion.

The sales of U.S. transnational companies worldwide in 1976 were about \$514.732 billion, while direct North American investments, only in majority companies, reached \$137.244 billion, according to the Department of Commerce.

Echeverria specified that "in the present administration a complete effort in agricultural-industrial planning progressed significantly."

However, there are serious obstacles and problems to resolve, which result from the structure, trends and behavior of the food and nonfood industries.

Among other phenomena, Echeverria mentioned the concentration of production and property, the increase in capital for the productive processes, the denationalization and the transnationalization of industrial plants.

There is also the greater subordination of farmers with regard to monopoly structures and their smaller possibilities for participation in the agricultural-food chain and the distortion of social patterns of consumption.

All of this, asserted Echeverria, objectively shows the confirmation and continuation of the mechanisms of neocolonial exploitation.

Moreover, he said, the insertion of our food industry into a transnational world economy and the interaction between foreign investments and the productive system already has culminated, in certain strategic sectors, in the disjoining of their markets.

This, in the future, can result in possibly a greater crisis, that is, the crisis of the state that is divided between political aspirations and socioeconomic and cultural dependency.

But the transnational companies participate not only in the production of essential foods but also in the production of input.

In this way they control 61 percent of balanced foods for animals, 60 percent of improved seeds and 100 percent of the pure genetic lines for poultry and pig raising.

They dominate everything from the purchase of raw materials, whose prices they control, as well as controlling peasant organizations, patterns and techniques of farming and of animal reproduction, in order to arrive at fixing of prices for the manufactured products, control of their systems of commercial distribution and imposing habits of consumption.

What is the federal government doing to hold back these obvious, harmful results of the transnationalization of the industry?, Echeverria was asked.

He answered, "They are attacking from two flanks, development and regulation, within a general context of planning."

Echeverria referred back to 1980, in which year he said that President Lopez Portillo started the National Plan for Agricultural-Industrial Development.

At the present time, within this plan there are already 450 totally new specific projects, promoted by the SARH and financed by the public sector.

Among the agroindustries of essential products and input that are operating within the plan for development in this sector, there is the installation of slaughterhouses in Chiapas, Chihuahua, Tabasco and Jalisco.

There will also be oil-producing plants in Sonora, Sinaloa and Chiapas, and fruit growing programs in Aguascalientes, where grapes will be processed and where must and wines will be manufactured, with Italian consultants.

In Chiapas they are working on rebuilding a flour mill.

In total, between 80 and 81 [as published] were worked on in 204 agricultural-industrial projects, and this year 200 more will be developed.

The loans come from BANRURAL [National Rural Credit Bank], although, last year, they were very limited; from the Fund for Agroindustrial Development, which put into operation between 1.5 and 1.8 billion pesos, plus the discounts from the FIRA [agricultural financing aid funds] to the state and private bank: in total, between 4 and 5 billion pesos.

Echeverria also reported that there are nearly 600 companies that are operating in rural areas through the support of the Fund for Agroindustrial Development.

But, in the face of the reality of a transnationalized economy, what must be done in the future?

Echeverria said, "Simply to nationalize the food industry. But nationalizing does not mean having state control in the whole industry, but in that which produces essential foods so that, at least, in this branch the country will cease to be dependent."

And he explained, "Nationalizing does not mean having state control of the food industry at the service of the private sector or of the official bureaucracy to protect the system of the foreign operation, but, on the contrary, nationalizing involves recovering and strengthening the effective and efficient presence of the public, social and private Mexican sectors in one of the country's key activities."

Moreover, our system of planning must be perfected without ceasing to take care of priority requests from the peasants and to develop investments, depending on the programs by product and region.

Echeverria said the National Network of Cold Storage Plants; the National Network of Slaughterhouses, a type of federal inspection, and the National Network of Storage and Warehousing must be consolidated.

He declared he was against isolated projects because they cancel out action.

Echeverria mentioned the specific case of the present oversupply of chicken on the market. "If we had a national network of cold storage plants, the market would have held up; the same thing is happening with eggs, because there is a lack of breaking and dehydration plants."

If we had a national network of cold storage and packing plants for meat, we would do away with the ineffective system of bringing meat into the Federal District.

Federal Actions Must Be Joined Together

Finally, Echeverria said that the government will have to establish a better prepared system of public coordination.

Although, Echeverria specified, in the present administration, President Lopez Portillo has established the National Plan, the Agroindustrial Commission and the Fund for Development for Agroindustries, there exist, however, policies in taxes, credit and trade, in public expenditures, foreign investment, grower associations, specific investment projects, sectoral and regional programs, as well as efforts in technical assistance that are still inarticulate.

But, asserted Echeverria, the most important effort in this government was to establish common criteria in agroindustrial activity.

The second organic and programmatic step will be to coordinate efforts in a main plan and that we all work without wasting resources.

Moreover, on referring to training as a fundamental point in agroindustry, Echeverria said, "Organizing the peasant involves political mobilization by our people in the countryside.

"We have to be ready for this mobilization and to take all the risks that this implies, so that the peasants who are already trained can qualify for credit and deal with public as well as private capital.

"However, for this, we have to eliminate the chiefdoms run by representatives, governors and the village political bosses themselves, who are opposed to democratizing the peasant life; but this has to be done, we have to tear down the barriers."

9545

CSO: 3010/795

SECRETARIAT ANNOUNCES UPCOMING DROP IN FOOD PRICES

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 2 Feb 82 p 9

[Article by Anibal Ramirez]

[Text] The Secretariat of Commerce announced yesterday that within 2 weeks beans, rice and other perishable products will drop in price. This action, they said, is part of a campaign of price reduction for essential products and for those that are in oversupply.

The Secretariat of Commerce [SECOM] also reported that this week the authorities will continue to maintain the same price for chicken (39.90 and 35 pesos) with the aim of protecting the consumer to the maximum.

The official spokesman for SECOM, Alfredo Nolasco, specified that carbonated beverages will not drop in price and added that up to now there has been no thought of adjusting their price.

Nolasco also stated that in the same way the prices of tuna and sardines will drop up to 60 percent. The whole price reduction of perishable products is with the aim of physically flooding the market at low prices, for example, tuna at 27.80 pesos (it presently costs 42.50 pesos) starting next Monday.

Later on Nolasco pointed out that imports of corn and beans for this year are being considered within the Program for Purchasing of the Federal Public Administration, "as secondary in case they might be required."

Nolasco emphasized that even when the possible imports of grains are forecasts, Mexico "keeps its doors open" in case circumstances make it necessary to resort to the foreign market, in order to cover shortages of these products.

However, Nolasco said that the purchasing program is considering the importation of 2,181 billion pesos of these products, but he insisted that they are secondary.

On the other hand, Nolasco said it is untrue that soft drinks are going up in price by 40 percent, for which reason he explained that the recent publication where an increase in these prices is indicated, is unfounded.

In order for the prices of soft drinks to go up, it is required that the businessmen in this sector present their cost analysis so that the authorities can determine how necessary the increase may be, explained Nolasco, who added that this is not possible because up to now no adjustment has been made in the tariff on sugar, which is the main ingredient in soft drinks.

But, Nolasco said they will penalize those who increase the price of carbonated beverages, using the little information that there is, which will be in accordance with the irregularity of the action, either through an economic penalty or through temporary closure.

9545

CSO: 3010/795

CLANDESTINE STATION CRITICIZES MIAMI EXILES

PA202154 (Clandestine) Radio 15 September in Spanish to Nicaragua 0300 GMT
20 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Nine uniformed criminals have betrayed the Nicaraguan people in complicity with other criminals who are underhandedly quiet about their misfortune. Some of these criminals have already died without being forgiven by God and the Nicaraguan people, like Omar Torrijos--the canteen soldier [soldado cantimplora] whose only battles were won behind a bar and who entered into a pact, in a drunken state, with the communists in order to supply weapons, planes and soldiers and establish a dictatorial and communist regime in Nicaragua.

Others like Rodrigo Caraczo Odio, the despicable turncoat who imitated Judas--the man who sold Christ for 30 coins--and sold Nicaragua to communism for \$30 million, Carlos Andres Perez--Castro's publicity puppet who painted Nicaragua communist red--and Lopez Portillo, a symbol of demagoguery and mockery of democracy, are the intellectual authors of the crimes that the Castro-Marxist of the FSLN are carrying out in Nicaragua today.

The arrival of these traitors of freedom and democracy prompted the escape of other rotten individuals who fled with large quantities of dollars in their pockets. These individuals are now enjoying their wealth which was obtained through swindle, robbery, deceit and crime. For this reason, the Nicaraguan democratic force announces to the Nicaraguan people and the world that all these criminals who are in Miami and other places in the world do not have a place and will never have a place in our struggle.

Those who are fully enjoying the people's sacrifices and live in riches abroad with carpeted homes, luxurious vehicles and large bank accounts at the expense of the pain and suffering of the Nicaraguan people will be fought until death just as the communists of the FSLN.

In this struggle for freedom, we don't want those Armando Fernandez, Guillermo Noguera, Samuel Genie, Gonzalo Evertz, Nicolas Valle Salinas, Oscar Gomez, Orlando Zeledon, Juan Jose Martinez, (Valle Olivares), [name indistinct], (Roger Sandino), Fausto Zelaya, (Maria Elena Porras), Adonis Porras, (Humberto Corrales), (Felix Jimenez), Orlando Montenegro, Pablo Rener, (Celis Thompson) and Donald Spencer. [Former National Guard officer and Somozist government officials]

These people were born to consider money and riches as their fatherland. They better stay away from Nicaragua which has already forgotten them and which did not see them born. They marred Nicaragua for many years—its economy and freedom. They will never be able to enter, even their eyes, in our fatherland again. They better remain wandering in their exile. Let them continue to enjoy the good life at the expense of what the dictatorship left them. Individuals like these cannot be accepted as exiles anywhere, much less in our fatherland.

Nicaraguan brothers, our people are calling us to the struggle. Professionals and peasants, all the Nicaraguans who are struggling in the Nicaraguan democratic forces with honor and courage, are men who are willing to die for God and the fatherland.

CSO: 3010/931

UNIONIST CHARGES OFFICIAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST CTN

PA101851 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Feb 82 p 4

[Text] Carlos Huembes, secretary general of the Nicaraguan Workers Federation [CTN], said today that "the campaign of insults and false accusations that the official organs have been carrying out in the past few days against the CTN are not personally motivated but stem from the Marxist-Leninist project."

In commenting on the orchestrated campaign of insults by official organs against the CTN he said that "the campaign of late January and early February which the Nicaraguan people and the working class have observed in the official written and oral media, especially television, is aimed at confronting the so-called mass organizations with the CTN."

"It must be noted that these accusations are merely the beginning in order to subsequently justify repression, persecution and imprisonment of CTN leaders and members as was the case in the "Javier Guerra" state sugar mill in Nandaime, the banana plantations in the north and (Grano de Oro) where the Labor Ministry, the political police and the mass organizations have left hundreds of workers without their daily bread just because they are CTN members," Huembes said.

"We tell those who claim to represent workers and peasants that, throughout its 19 years, the CTN has defended the interests of the working class without hesitation and surrender. The CTN has always upheld the independence of the workers' movement in the face of political parties and the ruling party," he added.

"This firm political position," he emphasized, "is precisely what has caused the serious situation that the CTN is experiencing. The CTN is in a serious situation because it is loyal to principles which have legitimized our existence and which have, at the same time, earned us a place in the minds and hearts of the working class."

"Some would like the CTN to attempt to fill public posts in order to listen to the great ideologies which the Marxist-Leninists expound on behalf of the working class. These ideologies will never work in practice. These same people would like the CTN to submit to the line of the state-owner and not defend the workers when they are repressed, pressured and humiliated. They would like us to refrain from reporting the collective dismissals that have been carried out," he continued.

CSO: 3010/931

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT SUMMONS NUNCIO--The Press and Information Directorate of the junta of the government of national reconstruction informs the Nicaraguan people that, in view of the serious and unfounded accusations that are contained in the document that the Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua has circulated today, concerning the situation on the Atlantic coast, the junta of the government of national reconstruction has issued an urgent summons to Apostolic Nuncio Msgr (Andrea Cordero Lanza Dimonticemullo). A report will be issued in the next few hours on the results of the meeting and on the official stand of the revolutionary government. [Signed] Press and Information Directorate of the junta of the government of national reconstruction. [Dated] Managua, Free Nicaragua, 18 February 1982, year of unity in the face of aggression. [Text] [PA191231 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0417 GMT 19 Feb 82]

RESPONSE TO U.S. THREAT--Commander Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the Political Committee of the FMLN National Directorate, has said that the Washington administration is openly threatening intervention in Nicaragua. He said that in the face of this aggressiveness, Nicaragua is enhancing its armed forces' fighting capacity and is increasingly incorporating the popular masses into the task of defending the nation. In a statement to the newspaper NEUS DEUTSCHLAND, Commander Arce added that another important task consists of strengthening the national unity of all Nicaragua's patriotic forces, because this unity is a decisive factor in rejecting any imperialist aggression, in achieving a successful national renewal and in creating a new society. Similarly, Arce said that Nicaragua will fight against all petty, counterrevolutionary interests that attempt to sabotage the efforts of the working people, who are firmly on the side of the FSLN. Bayardo Arce said that the Nicaraguan people are very grateful to the countries of the socialist community for the efficient aid and support that they provide without imposing conditions, in contrast to the policy of pressure and blackmail pursued by Washington in an attempt to isolate Nicaragua from the socialist countries by any means. [Text] [PA200100 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Feb 82]

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL ON 'ALLEGED CRISIS'--Pierre Schori, member of the Socialist International said on his arrival at Nicaragua last night that the Socialist International is promoting another meeting. The meeting will be held in March or April of this year and it would be illogical to keep the FSLN from attending the meeting where important matters of the Central American political situation will be discussed. Schori is international relations secretary of the

Swedish Social Democratic Party and a member of the Committee of International Solidarity with the Nicaraguan revolution. Referring to the alleged crisis which the misinformation media have reported within the Socialist International, he said that it exists only in Venezuela. Regarding the fifth Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties [COPPPAL] meeting held in Managua in which he is participating as an observer, he said that it once again reasserts that Nicaragua is not alone. He said that the invitation to participate in this meeting is an honor and once again reasserted his interest and his party's solidarity with the liberation process of the Central American peoples. [Text] [PA202258 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Feb 82]

DISTRIBUTION OF LAND--The revolutionary government distributed more than 24,000 manzanas of land in Chinandega yesterday. In a ceremony held in El Porvenir, 18 agrarian reform titles were given to 18 cooperatives that will work the land in various areas of Chinandega Department. On behalf of the FSLN, Commander of the Revolution Henry Ruiz told about 8,000 peasants that the agrarian reform process will not be halted in Nicaragua. [PA191715 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Feb 82]

UPN DELEGATION TO USSR--(Gregorio d'Escoto), Radio Sandino correspondent in Chinandega Department, has been chosen by the Union of Journalists of Nicaragua [UPN] to be a member of a delegation that will travel to the USSR in April at the invitation of the UPN's Soviet counterpart. The other two members of the delegation are (Manuel de Ubarrios) of the Voz de Nicaragua and (Edelma Cruz) of the Agencia Nueva Nicaragua. [PA191715 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Feb 82]

FRENCH CREDIT AGREEMENTS--Alfredo Cesar, the minister-president of the Nicaraguan Financial System [title as heard], has signed two agreements to implement a 50 million franc (about \$9 million) credit granted by the French Government. It will be used for the construction of a cardboard factory, a tire retreading plant and the installation of telephone lines between Managua and Bluefields. Part of the credit will be used to purchase raw materials, mainly steel, industrial equipment and agricultural needs. [PA191715 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Feb 82]

SPANISH DONATION--Spanish Ambassador to Nicaragua Mariano Baselga today delivered to Nicaraguan Construction Minister Moises Hassan an important donation of heavy equipment spare parts. The donated items represent only 1/3 of the total donation that the Spanish Government will be giving to the construction minister in the form of cooperation for the development of the revolutionary process, Ambassador Baselga stated in officially delivering the donation to the Nicaraguan minister. [PA132025 Managua International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 13 Feb 82]

SPANISH WHEAT DONATION--A shipment of 2,000 tons of wheat, 500 kilos of toys and three separate shipments of spare parts were donated by the Spanish Government. It was announced today that the wheat shipment will arrive in Nicaragua next month. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2059 GMT 15 Feb 82]

AID FOR METEOROLOGICAL ACTIVITIES--In the next few days, the instruments will be prepared to formalize the aid grant to Nicaragua by France and the FRG worth some \$100 million that will be used to reactivate and improve the country's network of weather stations. [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Feb 82]

CSO: 3010/931

BRIEFS

OVERHAUL OF DRY DOCKS--The Panamanian Government has signed a contract with a French-Panamanian consortium for the overhaul of three dry docks turned over to Panama according to the Torrijos-Carter treaties. A total of \$10 million will be invested in improvements. [PA200230 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 15 Feb 82 p 2]

JAPANESE MEDICAL DONATION--The Japanese Government has donated \$2.7 million in medical equipment to the Panamanian Cancer Institute. The Japanese ambassador to Panama, Toru Ishii, presented the donation to Panama's health minister, Dr Jorge Medrano. This donation is a result of the trip made by President Royo to Japan in 1980 at which time the Japanese Government offered to help with seven projects for the economic development of Panama. [PA202006 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 17 Feb 82 p 5]

CSO: 3010/933

PPC FIRST PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR 1985 ANNOUNCED

Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Jan 82 p 2

/Text/ Dr Luis Bedoya Reyes, leader of the Popular Christian Party /PPC/ is the first presidential candidate for the 1985 general election. Justice Minister Dr Enrique Elias Laroza, another of the most influential politicians in that party, made the announcement this morning.

Besides calling Bedoya Reyes a man "who regards himself with the deepest humility," he said that the PPC already has serious and coherent proposals and will continue to prepare its ideology, which is the strategy for 1985.

Elias Laroza was vague in stating whether the PPC will go to the polls through an alliance with the current party in power, Popular Action, but stressed that it is an alternative should the people wish it.

Speaking on a television program, the justice minister also made it clear that the PPC is not currently an "unwanted guest" in the ruling party, but that "we are collaborators."

In that regard, he reiterated that the PPC is definitely collaborating to guarantee the democratic system, not just because it is seeking to impose its own economic policy, since that is the job for Popular Action, which won the elections.

Nevertheless, he noted that the recent statement on economic policy established the differences between the previous government and this one as well as his own.

Referring to the role of the two PPC ministers in the cabinet, he said that "we carry out the policy President Belaunde suggests to us," but that does not mean "we are not qualified to carry out the plan of government," nor does it mean renouncing "our partisan ideas."

Elsewhere in his speech, Elias Laroza lamented that after the resignation of Deputy Miguel Angel Mufarech, some 43 members of the National Bank Party, where there are 200 to 300 sympathizers, left the party. He said that they entered by the main door and also left by the main door.

8587

CSO: 3010/786

APRA SENATOR SAYS PACT WITH GOVERNMENT POSSIBLE

Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Jan 82 p 2

/Text/ The possibility of an alliance between the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance /APRA/ and government should not be ruled out at the present time, when there are areas of agreements such as a desire to consolidate the country's democratic government, as Senator Edmundo Haya de la Torre stated yesterday, but at the same time he said that no pact between the two factions was imminent.

With respect to a front combining APRA and the left, Haya de la Torre indicated that his party has always been anticommunist, but nevertheless there might be areas of agreement, such as the recent "altruistic urge" on the part of both groups to end the persecutions and civil war taking place in El Salvador.

"Reports that there is a pact or rapprochement between APRA and the communists are an invention by those who want to make news," said Haya de la Torre, and stressed that both groups recently agreed to join forces to prevent continuation of "an act of savagery in El Salvador."

Asked about his brother Victor Raul's position on communism, he indicated that he was always anticommunist because he always felt that Marxist doctrine is contrary to the interests and needs of the Indo-American countries.

"That is a doctrine that favors foreign ways, and Haya de la Torre said that to the Russians themselves. So there is no truth in rumors of a pact between APRA and communism," remarked the APRA senator as he walked to his car after work in Congress.

And with regard to an alliance with Popular Action, he replied that that was "the first he had heard of it" and admitted that such a thing could happen if, for example, the government should change direction, particularly in its economic policy.

8587

CSO: 3010/786

BRIEFS

PROSECUTION OF TERRORISTS--Seventeen men and women implicated in terrorist activities will be publicly tried on a date to be announced soon. Acting both separately and jointly, under the direction of the group known as Shining Path, they committed more than a score of attacks in Arequipa against communications, electrical services, and public and private property, as well as provoking all kinds of acts of sabotage and in many cases confusing union leaders into calling for and remaining on strikes. The 17 people, whose ages range from 18 to 42, were arrested in various locations and on various dates. Among them is "Comrade Ana," head of Shining Path for the south, as well as several peasant workers and university students with links to international communism. It is currently reported that investigations are in their final stage. Moreover, it was reported that over 90 percent of those arrested have admitted their guilt. All of them are said to be going on trial around the end of May. /Text/ /Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 26 Jan 82 p A-12/ 8587

CSO: 3010/786

BRIEFS

RULING ON STATE NAME--Ending their Special Sitting of the West Indies Associated States Court of Appeal here in four days of this week, the three Honourable Justices of Appeal on Thursday morning, unanimously agreed that the name of this State is, "The State of ST. CHRISTOPHER and NEVIS." In an oral judgement delivered before a throng of interested listeners, the Appeal Judges held that the name ST. CHRISTOPHER and NEVIS applied to this State from December 19, 1980, the date of the separation of Anguilla from the State. The United Kingdom Parliament purportedly separated the island of Anguilla from the State of St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla as it then was, on the 19th December, 1980. This Anguilla Act of 1980 was shortly followed by Her Majesty's "Anguilla Consequential Provisions Order of 1981" which specifically stipulates with retroactive effect, that as from 19th December, 1980 the Associated State hitherto styled St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla shall henceforth be styled St. Christopher and Nevis. Provision is also made in the 1981 Order for References in any relevant law to St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla, to be read as St. Christopher and Nevis. [Excerpt] [Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 23 Jan 82 p 1]

CSO: 302

TWO OPPOSITION SENATORS RESIGN; REPLACEMENT UNCERTAIN

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 4 Feb 82 p 5

[Text]

KINGSTOWN, Wed., (Cana)
OPPOSITION SENATORS
 Victor Cuffy and George Thomas, both resigned from Parliament yesterday.

Thomas said ailing health — he suffered a slight stroke last year — influenced his decision, but Cuffy declined to give a reason at this time.

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Constitution provides for four senators to be appointed on the advice of the Prime Minister and two on the advice of the Leader of the Opposition.

Since the December, 1979, general election here, six Opposition senators have either been fired or have resigned.

COMPLICATED ISSUES

The question of Opposition senators here has, however, been complicated, because in just under three years of the life of the present Parliament, there have been two different Opposition Leaders in the State.

Calder Williams, who contested the 1979 general elections as a member of James Mitchell's New Democratic Party (NDP) and was appointed Opposition Leader, originally appointed Jerry Scott and Emery Robertson as his senators.

But when in March, 1980, he broke away from the NDP to form his own Working People's Party (WPP), he dismissed Robertson and Scott, both of whom were members of the NDP, and ap-

pointed in their places Brinsy Nickie and Victor Cuffy, who had left the NDP with him.

By February, 1981, for reasons not yet known, Nickie was dismissed by Williams and Carlisle Ashton appointed in his place.

Five months later, former Minister of Health in the ruling St. Vincent Labour Party administration of Prime Minister Milton Cato, Randolph Russel, split with the Labour Party.

Calder Williams then stepped down as Leader of the Opposition in favour of Russel. But not before they had agreed that they would each name one of the two Opposition senators.

So the axe fell on Ashton. Cuffy was retained by Williams, and Ashton's place was taken by George Thomas, a retired civil servant turned writer. His only novel to date being "Ruler in Hairouna."

Mr. Thomas, like Mr. Russel, is a former executive member of the St. Vincent Labour Party. But he, too, left the party, claiming, like Russel, that he was disgusted with the manner in which matters of State were being handled by the Milton Cato administration.

Now that both Opposition senators have resigned, it is not certain if the arrangement between former Opposition Leader, Williams, and the present leader of the Opposition, Russel, will be applied in appointing two new senators.

NEW UNION CALL FOR NATIONALIZATION OF OIL INDUSTRY

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 4 Feb 82 p 4

[Text]

SAN FERNANDO:

THE Oilfield Workers Trade Union through president general George Weekes, has re-iterated its call for nationalisation of the entire oil industry of Trinidad and Tobago.

Nationalisation could result in the industry being maintained in the best interests of the country, the union stated.

Mr Weekes has sent a letter to Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Mr Patrick Manning on the matter. He also brought the minister up to date with the union's views concerning moves to save the industry.

Copies of his letter were sent to Prime Minister George Chambers and Minister of Labour, Social Security and Co-operative, Mr Errol Mahabir.

Mr Weekes referred to 1937, when the first call was made by the then president general Mr. A.C. Rienzi for nationalisation of the oil industry.

Mr Weekes pointed out that the entire production

of AMOCO (representing 60 per cent of total national production) is exported, while the Texaco refinery is suffering lower throughput because of the worsening fuel oil market.

This total irrational nature of the oil industry, which is caused by the effective control exercised by the various multinational corporation's operating to their own dictates, was the main factor responsible for Mr Rienzi to state "if the industry were nationalised, competition and wild catting would be ended, the uneconomic fields would be closed down which would save us hundreds of thousands of dollars annually and the proven and productive areas could be more extensively developed."

Since then the OWTU continued to present its case for the nationalisation of the oil industry, said Mr Weekes.

The OWTU told Mr Manning of the "rapidly deteriorating situation in the petroleum industry."

ANALYSIS

The oilfields workers had been predicting for several years now that the entire future of the country's industry was at the cross road due to development at the international level.

Mr Weekes said that in the 1978 wage negotiation on behalf of the hourly and weekly workers of Texaco the OWTU through its economic adviser Dr. Trevor Farrell, prepared a detailed analysis of the oil industry.

At that time the union warned that United States policy is to conserve energy, expand U.S. oil production especially offshore, switch to alternative energy sources, and reduce imports.

Mr Weekes pointed out that that policy will result in the liquidation of the Caribbean refining industry and he went on to state that by 1985, if the Carter Plan succeeded, U.S. demand for imported residual oils could drop to zero.

"Texaco, we predict will soon be quietly abandoning its traditional role here," said the union leader.

NEW ALTERNATIVE CANDIDATE TO SEND PRIVACY BILL TO CONGRESS

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 4 Feb 82 p 1-25

[Text] Dr Jose Vicente Rangel, the candidate nominated by the New Alternative for the primary elections, announced yesterday that he will propose to the congress that a law for the protection of the privacy of individuals be drafted with a view to preventing the tapping of civilian and military telephones.

Also, the parliamentarian said, this draft law would serve to penalize the use of confidential material prepared by state security bodies for purposes other than those specifically intended.

"A delicate situation is developing in the country in connection with the telephone eavesdropping on civilian citizens and military personnel being done by state police bodies, enterprises in the public sector and private security organizations.

"In fact," he said, "there is an alarming escalation which seriously threatens the scope of Venezuelan citizens' privacy and rights, already and of itself in extremely delicate balance. In this way a delicate situation is developing which in practice cancels out what constitutes the essence of democracy--respect for the citizen and his full personal and legal safety.

"One of the mechanisms by which citizens' privacy and rights are being violated is the absolutely illegal interference in telephone communications. In this way, the government in office gathers information against citizens and amasses data about the most various activities in their lives, which at some time might be used for perverse purposes, either of a police or some other sort.

Also, in this way the political leadership of the country--that of the opposition and even that part of the government party not in agreement with the president--is subject to arbitrary and irregular checks on its activities. This creates a threatening prospect for the democratic future of the country and brings into sharp relief the deterioration which the constitutional system is suffering.

"One of the national sectors most frequently subject to telephone espionage is military personnel," he said. "Close checking is done on numerous and distinguished representatives of the armed forces who on various occasions have found that their professional careers and promotions have been affected. This occurs in most cases because they establish personal or professional relationships with other officers or civilians who do not support the governmental policy or because they themselves, as the Venezuelan citizens they are are entitled to do, have exercised the right

to express their views privately about the conduct of military policy. This attitude has made them the focus of more intensive vigilance or reprisals of various sorts.

What has just happened to local journalists who, for no reason, have found themselves subjected to undemocratic and inconsiderate surveillance, is equally alarming. This surveillance has taken the form of the development of files containing the most arbitrary police reports concerning their private and professional activities. The drafting of these political-police summaries, which are not authorized by law, constitutes an insult to the persons involved and violates their personal security and the right to work. Matters have reached the extreme at which these files have begun to be used for the resolution of problems in the business sector. As a journalist and a political leader, I assert that this is a typically fascist type of measure which tends to limit the field of action of mass media personnel, to create an atmosphere of ideological persecution and to limit freedom of expression.

"It is not only against the leftist sectors that these inquisitional practices are used. They are also used against other national political sectors, specifically against leaders of the AD [Democratic Action], as its presidential candidate, Jaime Lusinchi, recently reported.

"In view of these facts, the seriousness of which cannot be overlooked, I am going to propose to the congress, jointly with other parliamentarians representing the New Alternative and other leftist organizations, that a law be drafted for the purpose of developing and strengthening the guarantee set forth in article 59 of our constitution pertaining to the protection to which every individual is entitled 'against threats to his honor, reputation or private life.'

"Articles 62 and 63 of our basic charter establish the inviolability of the home as well as of correspondence in all its forms. Emergency measures are provided for special cases, either through the suspension of guarantees or searches ordered by a court authority. In countries where representative democracy has the most solid traditions, there is a special system precisely to prevent the violation of the basic rights of the individual. Thus to safeguard privacy, telephone tapping is only allowed in specific cases, in connection with the investigation of certain crimes, and only on the authorization of a competent judge. Similarly, it should be noted that any action of the public authorities in violation or contempt of the rights guaranteed in the constitution--the right to work, personal honor, and privacy, among others--is not only invalid, but according to article 46 of the constitution, 'government employees and officials who order or carry out such actions will bear criminal, civil and administrative liability as the case may be, and higher orders which are manifestly in violation of the constitution and the law cannot be used as justification.'

We will also proceed to make it clear how the activities of the security bodies, instead of being focused on the control of the excessive crime to be found today, involve the investment of time and substantial resources in the checking of a considerable portion of the political leadership of the country, important citizens in public life and professionals in the communications sector. In this connection, while appealing to the prosecutor general of the republic to act in his capacity as guarantor of the rights of Venezuelan citizens, we will simultaneously make contact with all parties, those of the left as well as the AD and the COPEI [Social Christian Party], trade union and employers sectors and all of those who are interested in preventing the destruction of the democratic regime and safeguarding the basic rights of Venezuelan citizens."

COPEI PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES, ELECTION DATE DISCUSSED

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 30 Jan 82 p D-3

[Text] Two issues have made life interesting lately at the Social Christian Party (COPEI). The possibility of reaching a consensus about a presidential candidate, and that of speeding up the nomination of that candidate, have stimulated COPEI leaders to talk, meet and make public and private statements.

But there is one thing that will influence the outcome of both matters: the negotiation of, or the attempt to reach an agreement on--to put it more mildly--the positions the party will take.

Although they are all Social Christians, as party members are constantly reiterating, and the "isms" are not official, the followers of "Calderism" as well as those of "Herrerism" and "Pedropablism" want not only political offices within the party, but also positions on the party slates for the city council, legislative assembly, deputy and senatorial elections.

Rafael Caldera and Rafael Andres Montes de Oca are the preliminary candidates for the presidency. The former is the founding leader of COPEI, former president of the republic and a man whom many consider irreproachable and sacred in his party. Montes de Oca, currently minister of internal relations, is a supporter of "Herrerism," belongs to the younger generation and therefore believes firmly that his candidacy is healthy for COPEI.

The Calderists control the party's National Committee at present. Followers of "Pepi" Montes de Oca know that Caldera has the advantage over them, not only because of the party machinery and his long experience in the street, but because of his natural leadership abilities. However, they want to go all the way if possible. They want to travel throughout the country, to reaffirm the intrinsic value of Herrerism and Montes de Oca's personal values, and to count votes. That will give them, if not power, at least some party offices and some positions on the party slates.

Pedro Pablo Aguilar, former COPEI secretary general and a power in his own right in the party, has maintained a quite interesting position. His alliance with the Herrera followers, his longtime friendship with Montes de Oca and his differences with Caldera, should point right to his support for the minister. But there has been speculation about a kind of friction between the two men, because Aguilar thinks that he has his own weight within the party and that his close supporters

should also have important positions. The issue of these positions has led to frequent talks between Pedro Pablo and Pepi, and Donald Ramirez and Cesar Perdomo and Alberto Lopez Olivier, among others, have also been talking a lot for the same reason. On Wednesday they lunched with the premier, and it is reported that they reached an agreement. But some maintain that Aguilar could remain neutral.

The Calderists, on the other hand, feel certain that victory is in their hands. Now what they want is a "consensus" for Caldera, so that they can quickly enter into competition with the recently elected Democratic Action (AD) candidate, Jaime Lusinchi. They believe that the "attrition" of an internal campaign lasting 8 months (until September) would weaken their stand against AD.

Montes de Oca is supposed to resign in early March and begin his campaign. Anyway, his term as minister has been good, according to his closest aides, because it has allowed him easy access to delegates.

Both Pepi and Aguilar have been cautious in carrying on the campaign. The longer it lasts, the more positions they can obtain within the party.

The National Electoral Commission will be installed during the first week of February. The National Committee, after consulting with the commission headed by Jose Antonio Perez Diaz, will decide whether or not the date of the Congress will be moved up. It could be in July, although some Calderists have pressed for May, inventing a way not to elect the candidate by acclamation, as AD did.

Fernandez for Consensus

Meanwhile, negotiations for a consensus continue. It appears that Eduardo Fernandez spoke with Caldera during the trip to Chile for Eduardo Frei's funeral. They reportedly talked particularly about the advantage of speaking well of the government so that the Herrerists would be more inclined to reach a consensus. Then in Honduras 2 days ago, the secretary general of COPEI talked with President Herrera, who indicated his willingness to go along and offered to expand the talks in Caracas. Moreover, the homage to Luciano Valero in Barinas promises to be very interesting. The leaders of all the factions will be present, because Valero has apparently said that he is a "Herrera-Calderist."

Montes de Oca himself, as some of his aides told us, is aware that if there is a consensus it will be for Caldera. "He would never agree to an understanding concerning Pepi," they said. For that reason, it is possible that the leader of Lara will spend a few months campaigning and then will decline in favor of the former president. Everything indicates that this attitude will serve to emphasize the validity of Herrerism in the party.

Godofredo Gonzalez has still not cast his lot. Will the COPEI candidate be elected by acclamation, as the president of the Congress claims?

8926

CSO: 3010/878

COPEI'S READINESS FOR PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN ANALYZED

Unfavorable Internal Situation

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 30 Jan 82 p D-6

[Text] Pedro Pablo Aguilar feels that the situation in COPEI is not as good as it should be, nor is it even adequate to meet the upcoming electoral challenge.

"The party's current internal situation is a difficult one. I think that we in COPEI cannot ignore the facts. When all is said and done, politics means coping with events. We are faced with the prospect of having to choose our presidential candidate from among many hopefuls. Such a choice is always difficult for any political party, and I think that it is our duty (at least this is what I intend to do) to try and see to it that choosing our presidential candidate does not cause trauma in our organization. I at least want to be able to help at the proper moment so that the entire party not only accepts the decision of the Social Christian Presidential Convention but also stands behind our election ticket and carries it to victory."

In remarks on a television program, the senator from Trujillo stated that the administration would not lose the elections in 1983. "COPEI is obviously the first choice, in spite of what some analysts and commentators are saying. I even think that we have in our hands all of the elements to make the December 1983 election returns overwhelmingly favorable to our party," he said.

"But we have to improve the party's internal situation," he continued, "which is not as good as it should be nor even adequate to meet the electoral challenge. We also have to improve the communication channels between party and administration; this is indispensable...We also have to create the atmosphere, the climate. This is a spiritual, psychological matter, and I think that we are going to accomplish these three things, and by doing so there can be no doubt that COPEI will have no challenger in the 1983 elections. My efforts will be towards that goal because I think that it is our historic and moral commitment to continue in power."

Lengthy Campaign

"My personal opinion on an early start to a lengthy election campaign, as seems to be happening, is related not only to COPEI's internal situation but also, I would say, to a national concern. The fact is that AD has already picked its candidate, even though they are talking about 'freezing him' and not beginning the campaign until the Supreme Electoral Council so authorizes. Thus, the main opposition party already has its ticket, and this had led to the view in other parties, specifically Oswaldo Alvarez Paz in COPEI, that we should choose our own candidates soon."

The former COPEI secretary general stated that these developments are going to push Venezuela into a premature election campaign. "The elections are in December 1983, and this is January 1982, and I want to remind you of this: After the presidential elections come the municipal elections. And if there were to be separate elections, we would also have congressional ones."

"I think that all Venezuelans (because this is a joint responsibility for everyone), particularly political leaders and the Supreme Electoral Council, have to do what is necessary in light of this situation so that Venezuela does not get annoyed with such a lengthy election campaign. This could even damage the democratic system itself and our political parties if people wind up getting annoyed by a long campaign. Thus, I would say that the problem is a national one. Unfortunately, events are creating the problem, but something will have to be done so that this at least does not hamper the activities that are indispensable to the country moving forward."

In conclusion, Aguilar was asked about his position in COPEI. As we know, he has not yet said whether he will support Montes de Oca, with whom he has been linked, Caldera or will remain neutral. "My role will always be to continue the activities inherent to the office that I hold, and when the election campaign is here, I will help my party in what must be an earnest and enthusiastic effort by all Social Christians to insure that we remain in power."

Internal Problems Denied

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 1 Feb 82 p 2-1

[Article by Angel Mendez]

[Text] "The best disproof of Pedro Pablo Aguilar's words is this enthusiastic show of COPEI strength at COPEI's 36th anniversary," said Eduardo Fernandez, referring to the crisis that Aguilar has spoken of.

Pedro Pablo Aguilar remarked last Friday that COPEI's internal situation "is not as good as it should be nor even adequate to meet an election challenge."

"I am not going to engage in controversy with any party leader, but in any case the best disproof of his remarks is the enthusiastic presence of COPEI in the Green Pavilion. The party is enthusiastic; it has voices of encouragement and does not want to hear voices of discouragement, especially if they come

from the same family and do not help us to decisively and bravely tackle the task that we have before us."

Eduardo Fernandez, COPEI's secretary general, was present at the meeting with party members in Paseo Los Ilustres. There, on a platform on which the party's zealots fired up the masses to the sound of the rallying cries for one or another would-be candidate, the young politician constantly mentioned how "prepared and expanded COPEI is for the upcoming battle."

"We are conveying our message here. We are going to begin a discussion in the electoral process that will enable us to clarify many things. I warned the AD people not to count their chickens before they hatch. I told them that Rondon has not yet begun to fight and that now is when it would begin to feel the activist presence of the party, which is prepared to wage major campaigns and battles to defend democracy and the development and progress of the people."

Countless numbers cheered the secretary general, who at each round of applause was taken with the emotion shown by his supporters.

"Our adversaries think that our Achilles' heel in the election campaign could be the administration's performance. But no," and he gesticulated in Caldera style, "we Social Christians are very proud of having elected Luis Herrera Campins president of the republic."

"The majority of the people did not make a mistake, because if AD's policies had been continued, the country would be in a very grave situation. At the next election the country will decide whether it wants to return to the same old tricks from the previous term or whether we are going to continue moving forward under the leadership of COPEI along the path of progress and development in Venezuela."

"Dr Fernandez," I asked him after his speech, "don't the placards for Montes de Oca and Caldera reveal the disagreements in COPEI?"

"I think that everything in the Green Pavilion illustrates the party's formidable vitality. The great fervor and enthusiasm that we can see (again alluding to Pedro Pablo Aguilar) tell us that we have to convey encouragement, not pessimism through the mass media."

"So COPEI is ready for 1983?"

"We are united, expanded and prepared to win in 1983."

COPEI Approves Auditor's Office Report, But...

With regard to the report from the Auditor General's Office, which held Dr Alberto Silva Guillen, the former president of the CMA, administratively responsible for the purchase of white corn that lost the nation 80 million bolivars, Eduardo Fernandez pointed out:

"I have great respect for the work that the Office of the Auditor General of the Republic does, and it has not yet issued a final ruling. This was clarified by the auditor himself when he pointed out that he had not authorized the publication of a final decision. Now then, I have known Alberto Silva Guillen for a long time and I think he is a man who has demonstrated great honesty and personal integrity.

"In any case, on behalf of COPEI I offer to do whatever we can so that everything is cleared up, but I could not fail to perform my rightful duty by expressing my convictions as to the honesty and personal integrity of Alberto Silva Guillen."

Commenting on the meeting that President Herrera had with AD candidate Jaime Lusinchi, Fernandez praised the system, remarking that their previous meeting and the one they will have this week "are evidence and signs that we have made major strides in Venezuela's democracy."

Police Measures Must Be Intensified

The most important person missing from the Green Pavilion was Rafael Caldera. In his speech Fernandez apologized for the former president with the following remarks:

"...you probably read in the papers that a deplorable accident last night tragically took the life of Mrs Alejandrina Barnola, who was a very close friend of Dr Caldera. This is why our beloved leader is not here with us. He is with the relatives of Alejandrina Barnola, who was vilely slain last night. But he told me to convey to you his energetic invitation to the struggle and that we are going to continue along the path of progress and development..."

"How do you feel about Mrs Barnola's murder?"

"Incidents like this mean that police measures have to be intensified. Furthermore, I think that we have to make serious decisions so that the police feels protected, safeguarded. You got the feeling at times that the police is reluctant to act because often when a criminal is arrested, he somehow manages to be out on the streets again."

He noted that some time ago Caldera had pointed to the danger that the police might be infiltrated, and subsequent statements backed up this concern.

"In short," he stated, "a deplorable incident like this, which affects us so directly and personally, should be grounds for intensifying the efforts that have been underway to defeat the underworld and crime and to guarantee the security of individuals and property."

As far as a consensus is concerned, he pointed out that this concept does not mean unanimity but rather a strong determination in the party, "which knows what is best for it and which needs this kind of strength to win the 1983 elections and is thus prepared to do whatever is necessary to this end."

Internal Problems Not Difficult

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 31 Jan 82 p D-1

[Article by Elena Block]

[Text] To Godofredo Gonzalez COPEI's internal situation is not difficult. "As its anniversary slogan says, the party is united, expanded and prepared. In other words, it is prepared to win the 1983 elections."

The president of the Congress of the Republic and the Social Christian organization yesterday voiced some of his views on the current situation in COPEI. He was asked in particular about Pedro Pablo Aguilar's remarks on a television program. The former COPEI secretary general said that the party's current situation is "difficult, not as good as it should be and not even adequate" to meet the upcoming election challenge.

Gonzalez clarified, first off, that he had not even seen in the TV program or read the written version. In any case, he agreed to answer the question because "all of Pedro Pablo Aguilar's statements have to be taken into account because they are always very respectable, serious and responsible."

"I am still optimistic about the party's internal situation. We cannot overlook that our upcoming internal electoral process, which is going to culminate in the selection of our presidential candidate, will have to cause some clashes, but these clashes are in no way insurmountable. They are nothing new either."

He then said that in spite of all the clashes that might arise in COPEI at present, "the end will be glorious. This is why I am saying that COPEI's candidate will be chosen by acclamation. Moreover, he will not be just a candidate; he will be the next president of the republic."

COPEI-Administration Relations Are Good

The COPEI president also talked about relations between the party and the administration. Pedro Pablo Aguilar also remarked that there ought to be greater ties between them.

"I am going to cite two opinions. One is from Luis Herrera Campins, the president of the republic, who in one of his most recent speeches said that relations between COPEI and the administration are good, are going well. The other opinion is mine. At last October's board meeting I also asserted that ties between the two are very good. They're good but they could be better, of course. Moreover, both COPEI and the administration are receptive to such an improvement. One of the foundations of democracy is its perfectibility and these relations are part of the democratic system."

"But it has been said that COPEI does not identify with the administration and that it has criticized some of its moves. The same is also being said of former President Caldera, a 1983 COPEI hopeful," I said to him.

"I think that the party identifies with the administration. I am certain that we are going to win the elections in 1983, and one of the things that makes me happy is that AD will surely come in second because of the successful outcome of its election caucuses, not because of its candidate but because it completed its process without problems. I think that it's good for Venezuela to have AD, not another party, come in second."

"Former President Caldera has said, however, that he is not the administration's candidate," I stressed.

"Whoever the COPEI candidate is will be the ruling party's candidate, because COPEI is the ruling party, the ruling party's candidate because the administration as such must remain neutral."

A Special Type of Consensus

Godofredo Gonzalez said that he would not, as COPEI president, take part in the internal election process and back a ticket. But he added that he would support and get involved in the steps towards reconciliation and consensus that are undertaken, as long as he is asked to, because he is not going to take the first step.

"I support all measures aimed at reconciliation, all efforts aimed at unity and I will get involved, to the extent that I can, in response to all the invitations extended to me. I think that a consensus is a good thing. It would be the best thing, but I should add that a consensus does not mean a single presidential hopeful. Consensus implies unanimity."

"But how can that be? Your colleagues who support a consensus say that it is a general agreement, not unanimity..."

"We can achieve a consensus without having to get down to a single candidate for nomination. A consensus could also imply reaching agreements on how to run the contest, on the ground rules, on respect, on consideration, but with a plurality. This could be the case, but I'm not proposing it. It has its advantages and disadvantages. The only thing that I do believe is that at the close of the convention we will choose our candidate by acclamation..."

Total Party Integration

The COPEI senator issued an appeal that the Special National Convention be held as soon as possible. As we know, the convention will approve a bylaws amendment to increase the number of seats on the COPEI National Committee. There will be four more members and two alternates. "The convention should be held as early as possible. This election should provide for total integration in the party's leadership."

"Do you mean that all factions should be represented there?"

"If there are factions in COPEI, they should be part of the committee. I do not like exclusions or discrimination."

Complaint

Godofredo Gonzalez wanted to speak out against something. "As was to be expected, there were protests in Venezuela when Pinochet refused to allow several Christian Democrat leaders into Chile on the occasion of Eduardo Frei's death. I have now learned that the Nicaraguan Government denied entry to Polish labor leaders from Solidarity who were in Venezuela a week ago and who have traveled throughout Central America. They did not let them in, and just like Pinochet, they did not give any reason for their refusal."

Silva Guillen Is Honest

As a friend of Alberto Silva Guillen for 40 years, the Congress president was asked about the Office of the Auditor General of the Republic's decision that the former CMA president was administratively responsible. "Now then, I am not denying that irregularities might have been committed behind his back, without his knowledge, but I can vouch for his honesty."

Consensus for Presidential Candidacy

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 2 Feb 82 p 2-1

[Text] Although a consensus around a COPEI candidate seems very unlikely at this time, the Herrera-Pedro Pablo Aguilar faction feels that support for the administration and respect for the party's leaders would be among the main ways to achieve one.

The internal picture in the green party has not changed much, in spite of the informal contacts that some leaders have made to hammer out an agreement on candidates. This goal, which is mainly the Caldera faction's, is still there, but some are saying that everything that has been accomplished along these lines is colliding with former President Rafael Caldera's stand.

The Herrera-Pedro Pablo faction feels that so far the Caldera faction has not given any indications that it wishes to observe the two preconditions that would facilitate coexistence. As an example, they cite the events honoring the party's 36th anniversary, which the Caldera people wanted to take advantage of to promote their man.

First of all, they noted that the COPEI Christmas dinner was moved forward to November so that the former president could attend, because he would be abroad in December.

Then, the schedule of events marking the anniversary was arranged so that Caldera could be present at almost all regional ceremonies, without giving

other leaders a chance. This was also the case with the Nuevo Circo meeting, which was staged especially to acclaim Caldera.

The Herrera-Pedro Pablo faction did not attend that meeting, but the rains came and saved the day by providing an excuse for the poor turnout.

The followers of "Pepi" Montes de Oca then charted a strategy to administer a sharp "blow." The "blow" was the Green Pavilion. The preparations had been worked out in detail and far enough in advance so that the Pepi faction could get the jump on the Caldera people.

The pavilion was unquestionably a success for Minister Montes de Oca, who was the star of the show. Most of the booths promoted him, and there was a wideranging display of placards, banners, tapes and other publicity material pushing "Pepi," in addition to bargain sales, some of which were announced as the "Pepazo."

In addition, the pavilion was used to publicize the administration's accomplishments, as the surprised Caldera people looked on passively.

All that now remains is the bullfight, the final event of the anniversary, at which we will see who dominates.

These moves by the Herrera-Pedro Pablo faction further dim the chances for an agreement at this juncture. This would be possible only if Montes de Oca, assessing the internal situation, concludes that a confrontation with Caldera would not be worthwhile.

While the Caldera people talk about the possibility of holding the Presidential Convention earlier, the Pepi faction thinks that Montes de Oca ought to resign as interior minister.

The minister is looking at the situation, and his decision will apparently depend largely on what the administration does, at least this month. The announced decisions on government official changes are very important to the launching of Montes de Oca's run for the nomination.

His followers feel that President Herrera will have to make some changes in a number of government offices, changes that will affect both Caldera and Herrera people who have supposedly already done their job and must now be replaced to change the administration's image.

In any case, if things turn out as they expect, they feel that Montes de Oca will emerge from the ministry in good shape and they have no doubts that he will play a major role as a candidate for the nomination, the feeling being that he might even win it.

If the changes do not take place, they feel that Montes de Oca should resign as minister anyway and launch his political campaign, based on a record in government that is regarded as beyond criticism and outstanding. In this case it is up the minister to decide whether or not to run for president.

Former President Caldera's failure to attend the Green Pavilion event, which pleased the Herrera-Pedro Pablo faction, was regarded as a victory. They commented that the former president was apprised of the situation in Los Proceres and therefore did not go. The blame for this defeat for the Caldera faction was imputed to Maria de Guzman, chairwoman of the events Organizing Committee, and partly to the Caracas leadership, which was overconfident.

For their part, the Caldera people downplayed the incident, pointing out that it was just publicity and that the Pepi faction made use of the administration's resources. They are saying that the nomination will not be decided by what happened in the Green Pavilion and that in the end Caldera will be the candidate, and, furthermore, by acclamation.

8743

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POLITICO-ECONOMIC FACTORS IN COPEI'S ADMINISTRATION VIEWED

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 1 Feb 82 p 2-2

[Article by C.R. Chavez]

[Text] The National Situation

We are ensnared in the tangles of our own inability to overcome obstacles, interpret facts and solve problems. Our fundamental problem is one of leadership, of the ability to properly guide the country and its people in a time fraught with demands and conflicts, and of the lack of a pragmatic administration that can organize, plan, delegate and work in accordance with the priorities dictated by the dynamics of society. This problem also lies in the misconception that all--or at least the majority--of our problems should be solved by the government, or through the channels of the patronage of the state.

Politically, the country is at a very crucial point, preparing itself for the great electoral campaign that draws near. That is, we are already on the launching pad of an electoral process that will be intense, costly and worrisome. It will leave us exhausted after 2 years of activity. Democratic Action (AD) has made the preliminary selection of its candidate for the presidency, and the Social Christian Party (COPEI) seems to be having problems in its own selection. It does not appear that the candidacy of former President Caldera is as unanimously supported as it could be. As for the leftist organizations, they already have a schedule that calls for them to choose their single candidate by the end of next July. Thus, we will have politics for quite a while, because throughout the year the various candidates will do whatever is possible to win the nomination for the presidency of the republic.

The national economic situation is influenced by issues of concern in several sectors that are basic to productive activity. For example, industry and agriculture are trapped by the effects of inflationary pressure, manifested in the rise of costs and the very low productivity levels. Aside from that, there are financial difficulties, in agricultural firms as well as industrial ones, particularly with regard to working capital. Banks, both government and private, have become more demanding and selective in their credit policies, thereby creating a situation which in many cases (of manufacturing industries and development and/or construction firms) is reaching a state of emergency and causing anguish among executives.

And if we look closely at the administrative situation of the government, we see the severity of the warning issued by the general comptroller of the republic concerning the state of disorder, anarchy and non-productivity that exists in public administration, with rare exceptions. One example is enough to give a more or less clear idea of what is happening: 10 years ago the national fiscal budget was 10 billion bolivars, and the total number of public sector workers was estimated at 250,000. Five years ago, the national budget was 47 billion bolivars, and there were about 600,000 civil servants on the government payrolls.

Only a month ago we finished up a year during which the national budget was slightly higher than the record level of 95 billion bolivars; and without anyone batting an eye, it was revealed that the public sector has a million "excess" people in its service. And if we do not turn off of this road, that is, if we do not reverse this trend, within 5 years we will have a budget of 150 billion bolivars and no less than 1.3 million civil servants.

What can be the fate of the economy and social situation of a country where unproductive employment such as that of the public administration is encouraged?

Nevertheless, that is the case in this situation, which is characterized by disorganization, a lack of discipline and the absence of a rational use of resources. The result is the irreversible loss of more than half of all the effort that is expended in the name of development in this country.

And what about the immediate future?

Perhaps the message we are trying to convey will be served well by a quote from one of the final paragraphs of a foreword written by our friend Professor Francisco Mieres for a report entitled "Venezuela 70-80: The Great Frustration." There he advances the following prognosis:

"Pan-Americanism in the field of energy and the decreasing yields of the petroleum industry and of capital, the treasury, the soil, industry and the urban habitat; technological dependency, accentuated in a vicious circle with financial dependency; the inability of planning to go beyond the role of 'market study' for private business, administrative ineffectiveness in the upper echelons, corruption as a general business practice and the proliferation of white-collar crime; the inferiority complex of political leaders vis-a-vis the oil technocracy, and the latter's assumption of the real reins of power, while party leaders' attention is diverted to the interminable electoral carnival; the acquiescent complicity of the labor union bureaucracy that is part of the system; in short, all this points to no less than an economic depression and the worsening of the economic, social and political conditions of the majority of the Venezuelan population. This prospect involves not only the reduction of oil revenues available for distribution and squander, but also the erosion of the democratic rights available to the people, and the heightening of distributive conflicts in the socio-political sphere that lead to a vicious circle with an unforeseeable outcome. This spectacle is even more pathetically obvious when we observe the way Venezuela blithely and carelessly drifts into the shoals of the electronic, information-oriented society. It is already committed to the technological modus vivendi of the United States as a replacement

for the famous Trade Reciprocity Treaty signed in 1939, on the eve of World War II, and denounced in January 1971." This scenario can be changed, however, if we realize right now the urgent need to change our ways and devote all our efforts to finding the most appropriate solutions.

Financial Picture

From an eminently objective point of view, it can be said that Venezuela is one of the developing countries with the highest density of financial capital in relation to its population, even though it does not have the largest banks or the most abundant basic financial resources in Latin America. Our country does, however, have two systems that meet the internal and external demand for funds in the country. That is, from the standpoint of structural sufficiency, it can be asserted that Venezuela has no problems in terms of the number of financial institutions, or in terms of the capital density of each of them. It must be remembered, though, that the Venezuelan Investment Fund, the Industrial Bank, the BND [expansion unknown] and the other state financial entities have combined total assets of more than 80 billion bolivars. Of course, this does not include the Central Bank, with assets of more than 50 billion bolivars.

But the financial picture is not just a function of capital density and the ability of the general financial system--public and private--to meet the demand for resources. The problem appears to lie in the absence of fluidity of working credit or investment credit, which is what is most in demand on the market. Bankers, moreover, are not attracted to the idea of expanding their credit portfolios very much, especially because there is one sector, agriculture, that represents for them a kind of deadweight that they must carry due to legal obligations, and that creates major problems for them in terms of collecting loans, in addition to constituting a frozen portfolio that is never less than 10 billion bolivars. In this regard, the National Banking Council points out that "in commercial banking, the (problems) linked to mandatory agricultural loan percentages, to regulations which impede loans to foreign companies that help expand the domestic supply of essential goods, and to temporary investments abroad of banks' excess funds, all constitute a burden."

Perhaps the most serious problem that faces banking today is that of collection, because private borrowers are beset with tremendous difficulties in obtaining the cash they need to pay back the capital they have borrowed. Many banks are now settling for just interest payments, deferring principal payments to "a later time," that is, when the general situation improves. But in any case, there might be a relatively easy way out of this problem. Nonetheless, the impact of inflation on the profits of commercial and mortgage banks and finance companies is considerable. Finance companies, for example, were shaken up by a loss which totaled 73 million bolivars for the final half of 1981, compared to a total loss of 170 million bolivars for all of 1980. This indicates that in three 6-month periods, finance companies have hemorrhaged 243 million bolivars.

8926

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ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACIES CRITICIZED

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 3 Feb 82 p 1-4

[Commentary by Jose Maria Machin]

[Text] The current Social Christian administration headed by Luis Herrera Campins has been called, and with reason, an incompetent, ineffective, sectarian and confused government. It is undoubtedly a government with profound contradictions that turns a deaf ear to the public outcry. It is certainly out of touch with the nation's problems. But if we analyze the history of Social Christian governments we can easily see that the Herrera Campins administration is no exception. In fact, setting aside the failure of Christian Democracy in other countries (which we have already studied in other articles), and confining ourselves to the movement's performance in Venezuela alone, we reach the inevitable conclusion that the above-mentioned characteristics are the general rule in terms of the frustrations this political wing creates when it takes office. If the Herrera Campins administration is bad and frustrating, the earlier Social Christian administration of Dr Rafael Caldera was bad and disorganized. We have simply to recall that at that time the country was going through a period of concern and uncertainty, just as it is now. Dr Caldera's administration also lived in the world of antinomies and utopias; at that time the administration was notorious for its "famous COPEI technicians" who, floundering in a sea of fantasies and miscalculations, claimed among other things that they would build "100,000 houses a year" in areas as yet unknown. Dr Lorenzo Fernandez owed his defeat to the prevailing discontent; he did not lose by 27,000 or 100,000 votes, but was resoundingly defeated by more than 600,000 votes, reflecting the tremendous scorn that people felt for Dr Caldera's administration and the party behind it.

It is clear that the administration of Luis Herrera Campins has surpassed those levels of ineptitude and impracticality, and has entered the realm of total inefficiency and empiricism. It is not surprising, therefore, that the administration's officials often resort to lying when dealing with the inexplicable. In view of the glaring incompetence of the government, the Social Christian administration resorts to deceit in order to justify an administration that has failed utterly. With eminently sound reasoning, the distinguished Venezuelan politician Dr Jaime Lusinchi, a man of profound judgment, stated in one of his speeches that we are undeniably dealing with a government that wants to use lies as a system. Dr Lusinchi is not the only one who has asserted this; other people have also spoken and written about it. Deputy Jose Vicente Rangel, a distinguished leader of the

Venezuelan left, stated in one of his articles that if the majority of the population demands anything, it is a serious government that tells the truth and does not lie. He indicated that Venezuelans are sick and tired of the COPEI administration's falsifications.

It is obvious to the entire nation that the country's economy has gone downhill during the 3 years of the Social Christian administration. Unemployment has risen considerably; many firms have gone bankrupt; the rate of economic expansion has gone into a tailspin, and the inflationary spiral has severely cut into workers' take-home pay. However, ignoring reality, the government talks of economic reactivation and presents manipulated statistics about the high cost of living. In other words, it uses lies in its desire to conceal the critical situation that everyone can see clearly. The same thing is happening with the serious social problems that beset the nation. Despite the frequent strikes--a clear indication of the desperate straits of both blue- and white-collar workers--the COPEI government falsely casts the blame for such problems on anti-social groups, or tries to discredit labor leaders by claiming that they want to destabilize the democratic system. The truth is, however, that the situation has worsened because of the inertia and indifference of the government itself.

One of the great lies of the COPEI administration is its claim to be the "government of the poor," in the sense that it looks out for the neediest. If any government has worked against the interests of the poor, it is the government of Luis Herrera Campins. Ill-advised and erroneous measures such as the "liberalization of prices" have had no other result than to punish the most downtrodden and needy of the population. Very rarely in the past have the political, social and economic conditions of the people declined and deteriorated as much as they have under the current COPEI administration. Education, public assistance, hospital care, public services in general are in such a state of neglect and abandon that it is sometimes difficult to believe that the inertia and ineffectiveness of a government could reach such extremes. When it comes to absurdities, wrote a reader to a newspaper editor, the Social Christian government is the alpha and omega. That reader also mentioned that highly criticized pork barrel, the "food voucher."

Amid great fanfare, government officials visit the interior of the country to attend some social event or cut the ribbon on a small plaza that is being constructed (something the local prefect could easily have done). There is talk of accomplishments that really haven't been accomplished, and of virtues that are really not practiced. Projects that were almost completed by the end of the Carlos Andres Perez administration are still being inaugurated today. But the upper echelons of COPEI power want to lull the population to sleep with deceitful sophistry. Thus, as has been noted very clearly, the rule of lies is the order of the day.

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NEED FOR LEFTIST UNITY, COPEI SHORTCOMINGS UNDERLINED

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 30 Jan 82 p D-8

[Article by Leopoldo Linares]

[Text] "This administration is so bad that no one wants to represent it electorally," said Jose Vicente Rangel in remarks on former President Rafael Caldera's request. The latter is trying to distance himself from the present administration as a preliminary candidate for the Social Christian Party (COPEI).

Commenting on the general electoral situation in the country, the leftist candidate also said: "If there is no unity, the left will commit suicide in 1983. The only thing that can prevent polarization is unity; that unity is a vital element for the Left."

Jose Vicente Rangel admitted that "we haven't just entered the campaign; it has been accelerating in recent weeks." He explained that the periods specified by legislation and by the Supreme Electoral Council have been exceeded in reality. He cited as typical examples of the nature of the campaign, the recent rally to launch Caldera's candidacy in Caracas, and the internal elections of Democratic Action (AD), which were won by Jaime Lusinchi.

"The electoral problem," Rangel stated to this reporter, "affects not only the parties that are trying to influence the choice of president, but also the majority of the nation's population, which views the electoral campaign as a way to participate in national affairs. These sectors of the population are also looking forward to the campaign and are voicing their major concerns as a function of the issues of the campaign."

Referring to last Friday's rally at the Nuevo Circo de Caracas, Rangel termed it a resounding failure, because in his opinion it is strange that COPEI should only be able to attract a few thousand people in the principal city of Venezuela. He also noted that "Caldera is going out into the street to jump the gun on Pepi Montes de Oca and force the party to make a pronouncement."

Commenting on Lusinchi's easy victory, the leftist candidate conceded that AD has gotten the campaign off to a good start. He stated that regardless of the position one has concerning the AD candidacy, one has to admit that this party managed to shorten its internal campaign and also to elect its standardbearer with a wide margin of votes. Rangel feels that all that gives a certain advantage to AD in the beginning of the electoral process.

To back up his theses, Rangel recalled that Deputy Oswaldo Alvarez Paz already came out publicly for a rapid convening of the congress that will select the COPEI candidate. Furthermore, some sectors of the Left are concerned about the polarization between AD and COPEI that is already being felt in the country.

"We are in a campaign," asserted Rangel, "and that fact cannot be denied. This is heavily influenced by the eminently electoral nature of our democracy. The Left cannot escape this process because there is no other alternative. We have been contending that the Left should link its platform more to the country's problems rather than just the electoral battle."

Later, Rangel acknowledged that there are differences in the left, precisely because of the pluralistic nature of this national political sector. But he explained that he did not believe that these differences were serious enough to impede the unification process demanded by the activists, sympathizers and allies of the Venezuelan left.

Rangel stated that in view of these differences, only two alternatives were possible: analyze and overcome them, or exacerbate and play with them. He directly charged one wing of the Movement for Socialism (MAS) with engaging in divisive behavior, in his opinion due to the bad position of Teodoro Petkoff's preliminary candidacy and the internal problems of that party.

In answer to another question, Rangel maintained that "if one is truly in favor of unity, one must make every effort to attain it." He expressed his willingness to engage in a dialog about the way to find a political solution, one which might lie between the positions of the existing preliminary candidates, or one which might present a fifth option. This fifth formula could, in his opinion, be represented by an independent candidate allied with leftist politics.

[Question] What is your opinion of the position assumed by former President Caldera in attempting to distance himself from the current administration in his candidacy?

[Answer] We are witnessing a curious political phenomenon, because for the first time we see a preliminary candidate of the official party who does not want to be the administration's candidate. We might even reach the upcoming elections without any candidate for the administration. I believe that this administration is so bad that no one wants to represent it electorally. And it is curious that here in Venezuela there has always been a desire to represent the administration in any election, but since that axiom that the government never loses elections was proven wrong, and in fact it has been proven that it generally does lose them, now no one wants to be identified with bad administrations.

After describing the present government as highly unscrupulous in electoral matters, Rangel said that "the country is remiss in terms of a great debate on corruption." He said that this administration arrived at Miraflores on an anti-corruption platform, but when specific accusations were made, it merely asked for proof and "has not even fulfilled the president's promise to publish high officials' financial statements." Concerning a law to combat corruption, Rangel lamented that the bill was tabled in Congress. He blamed COPEI and AD, because "we all know that with the votes of those two factions any law could pass in Parliament."

Finally, when asked about the possibility of a partial agreement on matters of international politics and petroleum, Jose Vicente Rangel said an understanding on oil may be possible, but he discounted any leftist participation in foreign matters because "we can never condone the genocide in El Salvador and the erratic politics of the current administration in Central America."

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BRIEFS

MIR PLENARY SESSION--A national plenary session of MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] leaders was inaugurated this morning at the national headquarters in Los Caobos, with more than 120 cadres in the national, sectorial and regional leadership participating. The plenary session of the national MIR leadership will make an assessment of the national political situation, focusing particularly on the recent economic policy measures such as the food bonus, the elimination of subsidies for articles of first necessity, and the plan to establish new taxes which will affect the lower income sectors. Another item to be discussed is a complex of political and organizational measures designed to expand the influence of the political action bloc and to strengthen New Alternative, as a function of participation in the primary elections organized by the leftist coordination agency to offer the country an option in candidates and programs capable of defeating the summit leadership of the AD [Democratic Action] and the COPEI [Social Christian Party] in the 1983 elections. Also, the leaders' plenum will review the organizational situation of the party and its youth, with a view to utilizing regional leadership mechanisms consistent with the requirements of the current political picture. The various subjects for discussion will be presented by Etanislao Gonzales, Americo Martin, Ivan Urbina, Omar Mezza and Erick Rodriguez. [Text] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 30 Jan 82 p D-2] 5157

PAST GOVERNMENTS CRITICIZED--"Not only do we criticize the chaotic result of 23 years of administration by the Democratic Action and COPEI [Social Christian Party] governments, but we want to build a new fatherland for the Venezuelan people," the MAS [Movement for Socialism] presidential candidate, Teodoro Petkoff, said during his speech at a ceremony held in connection with the 11th anniversary of the founding of that party organization in the El Valle parish. The MAS leader discussed the situation created "by these governments which for almost a quarter of a century have been selling out the country's destiny, wasting precious historical time," in his address. "But," Petkoff went on to say, "of the five governments this country, a Venezuela suffering from trauma and calamity, has had, this is the worst, the most negative, the most incompetent, the laziest, the most corrupt, not only from the administrative, but also from the moral point of view." Petkoff said that this government "has aggravated problems which have dragged for a quarter of a century through the pursuit of policies full of errors and misjudgment, and an economic policy which has brought about the worst period of spiraling living costs and has caused the unemployment of a half a million Venezuelans." "And if it were not enough to have created or completed the creation of chaos in the country, the foreign policy of the COPEI is also an embarrassment to the citizens of Venezuela, with interference in Central America and the Caribbean, the cases in which we are involved in support of the murderous junta in El Salvador, with Nicaragua attempting to destroy the

advances of the Sandinist revolution, and even such unprecedented actions as the sponsorship of subversive actions in this beleaguered zone of America by agents of the DISIP [Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services], in the guise of diplomats." The MAS candidate said that "although there is no lack of words to describe and explain all of the problems and calamities the COPEI administration has brought to the country," it is necessary to set forth for the Venezuelan people what his party proposes to do in view of this situation. "The country will no longer tolerate the partial and uncoordinated reforms," he said. "What is needed are radical and coordinated changes in two major spheres--politics and the creation and distribution of the material wealth of the country. It is necessary to make a reality of the concept to the effect that socialism means a government of the working people, the assumption of direct leadership of their own affairs by the working people on the various levels." [Text] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 30 Jan 82 p D-2] 5157

CONGRESS TO INTERPELLATE OFFICIALS--The representative congressional commission has unanimously agreed to interpellate Minister of Foreign Affairs Rafael Andres Montes de Oca and the director of the DISIP [Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services], Dr Remberto Uzcategui Bruzual, requiring that they report on files said to have been prepared by the DISIP on a group of professional journalists, and the leaking of the information contained in those files to private business circles. Similarly, the commission approved a proposal drafted by deputy Henry Ramos Allup (AD [Democratic Action]), for investigation of the operations, reported to be irregular, of the store designated OCP, and also a resolution of condolence in connection with the death of the former president of Chile, Dr Eduardo Frei Montalva. The discussion on the files said to have been developed by the DISIP on journalists employed at the DIARIO DE CARACAS and Radio Caracas Television was launched by German Lairer (MAS [Movement for Socialism]), and all factions contributed. Lairer said that this also represented a violation of personal freedom of a McCarthy-like sort. In support of Minister Montes de Oca, Carlos Rodríguez Gantaupe (COPEI [Social Christian Party]) expressed confidence in his action and asked that Lairer's proposal be modified such that the permanent domestic policy subcommission would pursue the investigation instead of the ways and means commission. This suggestion was approved. Since the scheduled time had elapsed, the right of URD [Democratic Republic Union] deputy Ramon Tenorio Sifontes to take the floor to speak on the subject of the resurgence of crime in the country was deferred until next Wednesday. [Text] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 4 Feb 82 p 1-1] 5157

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